

IMCOM commander visits Hawaii

VICKEY MOUZÉ
Managing Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A three-star general clad in the Army Combat Uniform grapples with a sergeant first class, also wearing ACUs, in a steamy and stuffy exercise room, here. About two dozen junior Soldiers, sitting on a blue mat, watch as the pair demon-

strates a triangle choke.

The general jumps up from the blue exercise mat and asks the Soldiers, "What else to you need to know?" The Soldiers, assigned to the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 516th Sig. Brigade, 311th Sig. Command, answered that they wanted to know about the finer points of combatives tech-

niques, such as the elevator sweep. A few of the braver ones answer the general's challenge of taking him on.

Martinez Physical Fitness Center was an impromptu stop on the itinerary of Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, commander, Installation Management Command,

See IMCOM, A-3

RELATED STORY

• Read about Mrs. Margie Ferriter's visit on page B-3.



Vickey Mouzé | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs Office

Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter (right), commander, IMCOM, discusses combatives with Soldiers from the 307th ESB, 516th Sig. Bde., 311th Sig. Command, at Schofield Barracks, Tuesday. The Soldiers were participating in Skill Level 2 combatives at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center. Ferriter visited the fitness center during his tour of USAG-HI facilities.

HRSC deploys for yearlong mission to Kuwait



A formation of Soldiers with 8th HRSC, 8th STB, 8th TSC, stands ready to deploy during the unit's deployment ceremony at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter, March 13.

Story and Photos by
SGT. GAELN LOWERS
8th Theater Sustainment Command
Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — About 70 personnel from the 8th Human Resources Sustainment Center, 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, bid farewell to the command, their friends and family members at their deployment ceremony at Palm Circle, here, March 13.

The yearlong deployment to Kuwait is the 8th HRSC's second deployment since its reorganization in September 2006.

The unit's first deployment, however, was a milestone in Army history.

"The 8th HRSC was the first HRSC to stand up in the Army and deploy, which it successfully did in 2007, serving 14 months in Kuwait and demonstrating its unique ability to support the warfighter," said Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commander, 8th TSC.

An HRSC specializes in personnel accountability, casualty, postal functions and theater gateway at the theater-level.

See 8th HRSC, A-4



'Take pride in your Army Hawaii home'

Spring cleaning launches larger new campaign

COL. DOUGLAS MULBURY
Commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Next week, March 27-29, Soldiers, family members and civilian employees on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield will participate in a massive community spring cleanup.

Orchestrated by the 25th Infantry Division, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and other on-post organizations, the cleanup is much more than just throwing away unneeded items, trimming the grass, raking leaves or cleaning windows.

The cleanup signals a return by the installation community to take pride in its Army home.

Under the theme "Hometown Schofield-Wheeler 'Ahaui Pride," the Army's leadership here is stressing that this spring cleanup is only the beginning of a much larger campaign to instill a sense of ownership, responsibility and pride in the installation. In fact, the Hawaiian word "Ahaui" means "bringing a group of people together."

With the past 10 years of unit deploy-

See PRIDE, A-3

Department of Defense identifies Army casualty



Ray

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
News Release

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense has announced the death of a Soldier who was killed in action while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

2nd Lt. Clovis Tim Ray, 34, of San Antonio, died March 15 in the Kunar

province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked a dismounted patrol with an improvised explosive device.

Ray was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

Ray's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (posthu-

mous), Purple Heart (posthumous), two Army Commendation Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal (posthumous), Combat Infantry Badge and Parachutist Badge.

Tri-service mission | A-4

Engineers lead community outreach efforts in the Republic of Palau.

Right of passage | A-7

"TF Wings" Soldiers receive their combat patches.

Hand-to-hand combat | B-1

8th STB proves that pain is temporary, but pride is forever.



Holy Week | B-5

Army Hawaii community is invited to attend various Easter celebrations now through April 24.

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army or organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 656-3156, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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77 days since last fatal accident

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 3/22/12.

QSP helps to reshape the force

ARMY NEWS SERVICE
News Release

WASHINGTON — The Army must begin to shape the force to meet its future requirements by implementing the Qualitative Service Program.

That mandate is according to a memo signed by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III, March 13.

The memo states, "It is imperative as we move forward that we retain our best leaders, but we can no longer afford certain over-strength military occupational specialties and promotion stagnation."

The Qualitative Service Program, known as QSP, establishes the use of formal enlisted centralized board processes to identify noncommissioned officers, known as NCOs, for involuntary separation from active duty, in order to improve grade/MOS, readiness at NCO levels by satisfying force structure requirements; to enhance the quality of the NCO Corps by retaining NCOs with the greatest potential for continued contributions; and to support sustainment of viable career paths across MOS/skill levels in an all-volunteer Army.

The Army will implement QSP ap-

plicable to active component and U.S. Army Reserve-active Guard Reserve NCOs. This program will begin with the centralized selection boards convening after April 1 and will include three elements:

- Qualitative Management Program Board, which considers senior NCOs (E7-E9) for denial of continued service because performance, conduct and/or potential for advancement may not meet Army standards;
- Over-Strength Qualitative Service Program Board, which considers NCOs (E6-E9) for potential denial of continued service when an NCO possesses a specific primary MOS/grade where the Army's 12-month operating strength projection exceeds its goals; and
- Promotion Stagnation Qualitative Service Board, which considers NCOs (E6-E9) for potential denial of continued service when an NCO possesses a specific PMOS/grade where promotion stagnation exists.

The first series of QSP boards will identify approximately 4,000 NCOs (E6-E9) for separation by the end of fiscal year 2013. The majority of these NCOs will be retirement eligible and will retain all benefits earned.

Those NCOs identified by OS-QSP and PS-QSP, who are not eligible for re-

tirement, will be afforded an opportunity to volunteer for reclassification into a shortage MOS, if qualified. This number represents about 3.5 percent of the Army's current inventory (E6 and above).

Over the past several years, the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-1, put into place a series of HR policies designed to support the principles of the Army Leader Development Strategy. These changes foster a balance of training, education and experience while encouraging lifelong learning and development.

"Our Soldiers performed superbly over the last 11 years of war, displaying the values, character and competence that made us successful. We value their service," said Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, deputy chief of staff for personnel, G-1. "As the Army faces personnel reductions, we must manage the force with precision in a way that identifies those with the greatest potential to meet our future requirements."

Effective performance counseling and accurate evaluations will enable NCOs to better position themselves for future service.

(Editor's Note: This release originated from the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 Public Affairs.)

'FIRST IN, LAST OUT' LEADERSHIP CHANGES



2nd Lt. Lauren Looper | 65th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Lt. Col. Dan Koprowski (right), outgoing commander, 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, passes the colors to Col. Jeffery Milhorn (left), commander, 130th Eng. Bde., officially relinquishing command to Lt. Col Darman Place, during a change of command ceremony on Hamilton Field, here, March 14.

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

We are responsible for our own pain

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.)
SAMUEL OLMOS

North Community Deputy Chaplain

You ever wonder why our world just seems so messed up some times?

Take, for instance, the American Soldier in Afghanistan who snuck out of his camp, entered several Afghani homes and shot to death 16 women and children. How disturbing is that?

How great the suffering?

It's the 21st century, and we still have not found the cure for crazy. In the past several decades, we've seen impressive advancements in technology, science and medicine, but advancements that counter violence and oppression are slow in coming.

What about the cure for pain

and suffering?

Theologians have long wrestled with the question, "Why pain and suffering?" Is God allowing us to suffer? What does God think of human suffering?

When I was in seminary, our professor passed around a very disturbing picture. Remember that iconic picture of the vulture stalking the dying African child in the Sudan? Sure you do! It's the one

of the starving African child in southern Sudan who is curled up on the ground while a vulture stands a few feet away ready to eat him.

Well, that sad picture went around our seminary classroom. We were instructed to say the first thing that came to mind. Many students blurted out the question, "Why does God allow this to happen?" One student

stoically expressed the idea that even vultures needed to eat. I didn't have anything profound to say besides, "That's sad."

I'll never forget the wise words of this pastor colleague. He said, "I bet God is wondering, 'Why do humans allow this?'"

It made sense. How much of the pain and suffering are we responsible for? I would argue that we are responsible for a larger amount of pain and suffering than we give ourselves credit. A vast amount of suffering could be cured if we took action.

Let me pick on the church and religion. James 1:27 states that "faultless religion looks after the orphans and widows in their distress." This verse is a call to care for the weak and helpless in our community.

I wonder how many times God asks the question, "Why does the church allow this?"

I know we can be better than this.



Olmos



"Laundry. My two boys go through more clothes than anyone in the house."

Sgt. 1st Class LoNika Harris
First sergeant, 599th Trans. Bde.



"Right now, it's getting my desk cleaned off."

Vanessa Manahane
Command management assistant, 599th Trans. Bde.



"I need to consolidate a lot of stuff. I've got some things at home I have to donate and sell."

Archer Newlun
Systems administrator, 599th Trans. Bde.



"Fishing. I don't prioritize very well."

Maj. Philip Raumberger
Future operations officer, 599th Trans. Bde.



"I'll go out with my dive crew and clean up the ocean."

Albert San Nicolas
Traffic management specialist, 599th Trans. Bde.



Identity theft is on the rise

Service, family members should know what to do if they become a victim

KEVIN LONERGAN AND JON COOK
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — With tax season upon us, the possibility of becoming a victim of identity theft has ripened.

You can file taxes with a reputable tax firm or even file your taxes yourself and still be informed by the Internal Revenue Service, or a State Revenue Service, that a thief has filed a tax return using your Social Security Number.

While the means of theft may be numerous — due to garbage picking, computer hacking, computer phishing and other IT attacks, the question is what to do next?

The short answer is you will embark on a long and difficult quest. An initial seven-step process begins to repair the damage.

1. Contact the Federal Trade Commission, the lead federal agency to file a complaint. Start at the FTC general website, www.ftc.gov, and within two clicks you will be at the page to file a report on identity theft.
2. File a report with your local police department. The FTC site has a report that you can follow to file this complaint.
3. Contact the Social Security Administration to inform it of the problem; call 1-800-772-1213 or visit http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ to find a local Social Security Office to dispute any wages earned or claimed to have been earned by the impostor.
4. Contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit to ensure that it is aware of your problem. Visit www.irs.gov/identitytheft and follow up with all procedures suggested there.
5. Contact at least one of the three major credit reporting agencies — Equifax, Experian or Trans Union, or preferably all three — so a fraud alert can be placed. A fraud alert is a message that is placed on a credit report to help protect a consumer's credit information.
6. Call and update your file with an FTC counselor, after you file your initial complaint at 1-877-438-4338. Keep your initial record complaint number so that you can update your case.
7. Keep records on all of the above steps with updates.

If all seven steps sound like lots of work, they are, but to keep your own life in order, they must be followed. If you have any further questions on identity theft or other consumer law issues, do not hesitate to schedule an appointment for legal assistance.

(Editor's Note: Lonergan is a legal assistance attorney, and Cook is a financial counselor.)

Getting it Straight

The website mentioned in the March 16 article, "Soldiers volunteer for sandy cleanup," on page B-2, should have read www.mydive.co.

Voices of Ohana

What task is at the top of your spring cleaning list?

Photos by 599th Transportation Brigade Public Affairs

IMCOM: CG focuses on services

CONTINUED FROM A-1

during his tour of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Monday-Tuesday. Ferriter’s combatives partner, Sgt. 1st Class Tohonn Nicholson, is a former lead instructor at the Army Combatives School at Fort Benning, Ga. He said that he and Ferriter are interested in improving Soldiers’ combatives skills when they visit IMCOM installations.

Ferriter’s first day included an aerial tour of USAG-HI’s installations on Oahu. USAG-HI encompasses 22 installations and training areas spread across 207,858 acres, including the Pohakalua Training Area on the Big Island.

Ferriter concentrated on services on the second day of his tour. Stops included Army Community Service, here, where he learned that ACS’s Blue Star Card program received the Secretary of the Army Award for Quality of Life in 2010. ACS, here, created the program in 2004 for spouses of deployed Soldiers. BSC activities include special events, such as “Walk Off the Wait” hikes and free or discounted child care.

Amanda Montgomery, who runs the BSC program, told Ferriter that spouses of deployed spouses appreciate the program.

“We have about 1,600 cardholders now, but we’ve been up to 2,300 cardholders when the 2nd and 3rd Brigade Combat Teams (of the 25th Infantry Division) were deployed at the same time.”

Later in the day, Ferriter met with USAG-HI employees at Sgt. Smith Theater, here, for an employee town hall.

“We’re (he and his wife, Margie) learning about the incredible things that you do to take care of our Soldiers, their families and yourselves,” he said.

Ferriter displayed a slide of his family photo.

He told the crowd that he and his wife grew up in Army families.

“We moved around 18 times in my first 18 years, and now Margie and I have raised an Army family on the same great Army installations that we and you all provide for,” he added.

One of their sons, Capt. Paddy Ferriter, is the commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID.

“(IMCOM) and you are providing for Paddy and his wife Laurie. They are an Army command team; they have 148 Soldiers to care for, so that puts a real face on what we and you all do in providing customer service,” he continued.

“Champion Soldiers, their families and civilians. It doesn’t cost a penny to make someone feel like a million dollars.”

In a separate tour, Margie met with ACS staff, senior spouses, family readiness group leaders, Survivor Outreach Service Center staff and families, and staff at Fisher House at Tripler Army Medical Center.

The Ferriters ended their visit with a tour of the Hale Koa’s underground facilities, including the laundry room and cooking areas.



Vickey Mouzé | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs Office

Ferriter and his wife, Margie, admire a table decoration made of pulled sugar at the Hale Koa Hotel at Fort DeRussy. The Ferriters toured the Armed Forces Recreation Center, Tuesday.



W.B. Terry | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs Office

Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, commander (right), IMCOM, visits with a Soldier at Schofield Barracks during his tour of USAG-HI facilities, Monday.



Vickey Mouzé | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs Office

Ferriter (left) greets surprised guests at the Hale Koa’s Registration Desk during his tour of the facilities, Tuesday. IMCOM’s FMWR division oversees the Hale Koa, one of five Armed Services Recreation Centers worldwide.

Pride: Installation issues resolved through community involvement

CONTINUED FROM A-1

With the past 10 years of unit deployments and extremely high operational tempo, we — as a community — have tended to neglect some of the basic housekeeping practices on our installations.

All of us who work and live here can make a big difference in how our installation looks — but

even more importantly, in the quality of life and sense of well-being we feel here.

Many issues on the installation can be resolved or improved by community involvement, such as littering, profanity, speeding and illegal parking.

It’s no secret that crime on our installations here, to include car and home break-ins, is caused largely by on-post residents. Just as in communi-

ties off-post, an aggressive volunteer neighborhood watch program and community-oriented policing of housing areas can help reduce these and other incidents.

As emphasized by both Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno and Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, it’s time to return back to the basics as our units return home.

There is no substitute for good order and discipline on our installations, from rendering military courtesies during reveille or retreat, to taking pride in our offices, homes, streets and facilities. Hometown Schofield-Wheeler ‘Ahahui Pride will be more than just a cleanup, but an enduring theme for all our installation residents to remember and act on.

Joint CAT Palau mission strengthens ties with islands

1ST LT. BRANDY KINSTLE
84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade,
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — During the past six months, a 13-Soldier detachment from the 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, had its boots on the ground in Palau serving on a Civic Action Team, or CAT, Palau mission.

The CAT Palau mission was a tri-service rotational mission between the Army, the Air Force, and the Navy. From August of last year until February of this year, the Army team had led the way and spearheaded or supported many of the U.S. community outreach programs in Palau.

The Republic of Palau is a nation in the Pacific comprised of a small island chain that is home to just under 22,000 people.



Spc. Vincent Procaccio, 523rd Eng. Company, 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, cleans out a drainage ditch while constructing a 1,500-meter stretch of road at the Melekeok Road Project site in Palau, recently.

The CAT worked on three large-scale community projects and completed two of them during this rotation. The team continued construction on a police and fire substation located in Ngardmau state, which was turned over from the previous Air Force team.

Babeldaob, the largest island of Palau, has only one police and fire substation for the entire island. This additional substation will cut response time in half and ensure that citizens receive timely help in emergency situations.

Staff Sgt. Harold Fellows, 84th Eng. Bn., led construction efforts on the two remaining projects by developing, planning and repairing vital access roads in the capital state of Melekeok, and the second most populous state, Airai.

“To go out into a community, see a need and be able to fulfill that need and better a person’s quality of life leaves an amazing feeling of accomplishment,” Fellows said. “When we started the Airai road project, an older lady in the community had to park at the bottom of the hill a quarter mile away from her home. Once we completed the road, she was so happy to be able to drive her car to her driveway.”

The team employs Palauans from the local community in a yearlong apprenticeship training program that teaches construction skills, vehicle and small engine mechanics, office administration and medical specialist training. The apprenticeship training program provides Palau with educated and trained specialists in job fields necessary for building the nation’s infrastructure.

The CAT mission included medical outreach. Maj. Mitch Hibbard, medical officer and physician, 84th Eng. Bn., provided free medical screening and treatment throughout Palau’s 16 states. He often set up the free clinics in open-air summer houses, visited patients in their homes and made hospital calls for patients whom he treated.



Sgt. 1st Class Mark Beck | 523rd Engineer Company, 84th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

Spc. Shawn Gregory, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, welds together a plaque for a memorial podium that was placed at Boodynose Ridge, on the Island of Peleliu, during the joint service CAT Palau mission, recently.

“Many of these people in the remote communities are in desperate need of medical attention but are unable to reach the national hospital located in Koror,” Hibbard said. “It is extremely rewarding to conduct home visits to treat patients ranging in age from one month to 109 years of age.”

The Palauan community was receptive to the team’s actions and welcomed the team into its villages and homes. The team took many activities outside the main areas of Palau and spent time in the outlying states volunteering at schools, setting up and showing movies, hosting a weekly radio show, helping individuals with small construction projects, and supporting local walking, running, biking and triathlon races.

The CAT and the Republic of Palau have a longstanding history, which dates back 43 years — representing 43 years of building quality construction projects.

More importantly, CAT and Palau are building a lasting relationship. The CAT from the 84th Eng. Bn. continued that tradition and looks forward to sending the next team of engineer Soldiers to Palau.

8th HRSC: Unit ready to ‘sustain and defend,’ tackle mission challenges

CONTINUED FROM A-1

With the upcoming presidential election, the HRSC and, more specifically, postal operations have their hands full.

“Speaking from the postal operations side of the HRSC, we have an exciting, yet challenging, job ahead of us,” said Sgt. Maj. Shannon Caviness, senior enlisted leader, Postal Operations Division, 8th HRSC.

“Our job is to make sure that every single person that is deployed is afforded the opportunity to vote,” Caviness said. “The challenge comes from the numerous post offices in Afghanistan and Kuwait. We are tasked with making sure that they are running smoothly so that all ballots are distributed out and returned back in a timely manner.”

The many responsibilities of the 8th HRSC extends to tracking all medical and casualty evacuations throughout the entire theater of operations, Caviness continued.

“We’re kind of like the referees for all human resources elements throughout theater,” she said. “We set the rules and make sure everyone is following them.”

The 8th HRSC is prepared for these challenges because of the training the unit has participated in, said Col. Lynn San Nicolas, director, 8th HRSC.

“Our technical training over the past nine months has fully prepared us to execute these missions and ensure continued



Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry (left), commander, 8th TSC, and Col. Lynn San Nicolas, director, 8th HRSC, 8th STB, 8th TSC, observe the unit’s deployment ceremony at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter, March 13.

human resources support to the units and Soldiers in the Central Command area of operations,” she said.

Terry agreed that the 8th HRSC was prepared for the mission and would execute exceptionally.

“8th HRSC, you depart for a tough mission in a tough place,” Terry concluded. “In everything you do, be it travel, work or rest, be safe. I am confident that you will ‘sustain and defend’ with honor.”

Expert Sapper Competition tests combat engineers

2ND LT. LAUREN LOOPER
65th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs,
130th Eng. Brigade,
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, hosted the Expert Sapper Competition, here, March 5-8.

Thirty-five teams from the battalion and its sister units competed in a variety of events to build esprit de corps, train on sapper skills and ultimately find the most expert Sappers in the battalion.

A Sapper is an elite combat engineer.

“This is a good assessment to find out where the troops are at,” said Sgt. 1st Class Frank Johnson, 34th Eng. Company, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC. “The Skill Level 1 tasks and physical tasks build character and camaraderie between battle buddies.”



Cammack



Carter

The competition kicked off at 6:30 a.m., March 5, with a packing list layout at the 65th Eng. Bn.’s motor pool. Later that morning, the teams crowded into the battalion classroom to take a three-hour, 100-question, multiple choice test about combat engineering skills.

They then moved to Hamilton Field, here, to take the Expert Sapper Fitness Test, which consisted of five minutes of push-ups, five minutes of sit-ups, five minutes of pull-ups and a three-mile run in body armor with plates.

The push-ups, sit-ups and pull-ups had to be done continuously for five minutes. Partners switched out, so there was always one Soldier performing the exercise.

The second day’s activities included eight stations that tested combat engineer skills, such as knot tying, emplacing a wire obstacle and mine detection.

Sgt. 1st Class Chad Pipkin, HHC, 65th Eng. Bn., ran the claymore mine station. He described the competition as “a good experience for these kids. They don’t get to do this stuff anymore, not the real engineer stuff.”



2nd Lt. Lauren Looper | 65th Eng. Bn. Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC

Pvt. Dillion Dickson, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, probes the ground for a mine in the mud during the Expert Sapper Competition held on Schofield Barracks, March 5-8.

When asked at the minefield clearance station to describe how the competition was going, 2nd Lt. William Whitfield, HHC, 65th Eng. Bn., laughed and said, “I put the material all together and I still wasn’t prepared.”

Whitfield must have been more prepared than he had thought because his team placed second.

The final event of the competition consisted of a nighttime12-mile road march on the hilly roads of East Range, here.

On the last day, March 8, the weary competitors returned to Schofield Barracks where they ate a hearty breakfast.

Following breakfast, winning teams were recognized.

News Briefs

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

23 / Friday

Employee Town Hall — Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, will brief the latest information regarding the command’s manpower situation, plans for realigning excess personnel and the Employee Placement Program, 10-11 a.m., March 23, 9th Mission Support Command Assembly Hall, Building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats.

27 / Tuesday

CID — The U.S. Army’s Criminal Investigation

Command is seeking qualified, high-caliber Soldiers to become CID Special. Recruiting briefings are held, 9:30 a.m., Tuesdays, Hawaii CID Office, Building 3026, Schofield Barracks, just inside of Lyman Gate. Visit www.cid.army.mil or call Special Agent Jose Perez, Hawaii CID Office, at 655-0541/1991 or email jose.f.perez@us.army.mil.

30 / Friday

Education Survey — Deadline is March 30 to complete a Hawaii State Department of Education survey that will help schools set priorities for improving programs and services. Parents whose children are enrolled in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 are being asked to complete the survey. Individual survey responses are confidential. Email questions to sqs@notes.k12.hi.us or call 733-4008.

Great Minds Service Awards — Deadline is March 30 to submit nominations for Hispanics in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, or STEM. Visit www.greatmindsinstem.org for nomination package requirements. Send Department of the Army Form 1256, “Incentive Award Nomination and Approval” with nomination data to the attention of Kenrock K.S. Higa; call 655-9372.

Ongoing

Tax Centers — The Hawaii Army Tax Center at Fort Shafter is located in the Aloha Center and is open 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Soldiers, family members and retirees can schedule their appointments for either location by calling 655-1040. For a complete list of what tax

documents to bring and updated wait times for walk-ins, visit www.Facebook.com and search for “Hawaii Army Tax Centers.”

AER — The Army Emergency Relief annual campaign runs through May 15. AER also accepts unsolicited donations from individual donors and corporations throughout the year. AER assistance is available to Soldiers, retirees and their families. Visit www.aerhq.org.

USAG-HI Website — The USAG-HI website is now located at ww.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. Update your bookmarks, as the old site, www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sites/, is no longer in use and contains old and outdated information.

Call Lacey Justinger, USAG-HI Public Affairs Office, at 656-3153.

DEDICATED SERVICE MEMBERS



Sgt. Nathan Akridge | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Retirees are honored for more than 250 years of combined service to the nation during the 25th Infantry Division’s quarterly retirement ceremony held at the Nehalani, here, March 14.

DEPLOYED FORCES

First Cup offers 25th CAB Soldiers, civilians morale boost



Spc. Jason Hartley (behind the counter), Co. B, 209th Avn. Support Battalion, 25th CAB, 25th ID, talks with Thomas Garrison, an electrician with DynCorp, after receiving a cup of coffee at First Cup on the Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, March 13.

Story and Photo by
SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Laughter breaks the background silence in the room as a group of Soldiers watching a movie.

A Soldier checks his watch, gets up from a comfortable couch and heads for a counter in the next room.

He slowly refills his mug with hot coffee, replaces the lid, opens the door and walks out of the First Cup and into the early morning hours, here, for the long work shift ahead.

The First Cup is a place where visitors can find an array of items and services to fulfill their spiritual needs or relax after a day at work. The First Cup includes a coffee counter, movie lounge, library, Internet café, phone room and a gaming lounge.

“The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade’s motto is ‘We Fly for the Troops.’ Here, our motto is ‘We Serve the Troops,’” said Chaplain (Capt.) Mike Derienzo, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th CAB, 25th Infantry Division. “It’s a privilege to have a place like this to meet the spiritual

needs of the Soldiers and to allow them to have a place to unwind after a hard day at work.”

The USO and other groups and individuals who have donated items have helped make the First Cup a relaxing and enjoyable environment.

One example is Holy Joe’s Café in Wallingford, Conn., which donated coffee makers and continues to ship coffee for the troops to enjoy.

“First Cup was established by the 159th CAB as a place for Soldiers to relax,” said Chaplain (Maj.) Kent Walker, 25th CAB. “This place was built by Soldiers, is managed by Soldiers and is overseen by the chaplains.”

Under 25th CAB’s supervision, the First Cup has remained open 24 hours a day to serve about 500 Soldiers a day who stop in for a quick break.

“I’ll come in here a couple times a week to either watch some movies or talk to my family,” said Pfc. Antoine Malcolm, automated logistics specialist, attached to the 25th CAB. “I like it because it’s a quiet, peaceful place to get away for a bit and to watch some movies. I told some of my co-workers about what this place has to offer.”

Patch ceremony recognizes ‘TF Wings’ deployment

Story and Photo by
CAPT. RICHARD BARKER
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, “Task Force Wings,” 25th Infantry Division, presented combat patches to Soldiers who are on their first deployment with the 25th ID at a patch ceremony, here, March 8.

Soldiers who have been on a combat deployment can wear a unit patch on their right sleeve, which they earn during their deployments after 30 days on ground.

“The patch is a rite of passage,” said Capt. Aaron Matthews, commander, HHC, 25th CAB. “It’s a recognition of their sacrifice to the United States of America for being part of a combat deployment.”

Col. Frank Tate, commander, 25th CAB, talked to Soldiers following the ceremony to let

them know they are now part of an elite club that only 1 percent of Americans has the privilege of joining.

“This was long awaited,” said Spc. Clint Swisher, signal support systems specialist, HHC, 25th CAB. “I’m glad to finally be able to wear this patch. I have been in the rear before and always wanted to feel like I was part of the team. Now I do.”

HHC is one of several companies in the 25th CAB that have conducted similar patch ceremonies during the last few weeks since first arriving in Afghanistan in early January.

“I feel proud,” said Sgt. Jacqueline Garza, a command group administrative assistant, 25th CAB. “I have been excited to get my patch and feel like I fall in with the rest of my peers.”

Garza, along with other HHC Soldiers who earned their patch at the ceremony, now fit in with the more than 2,500 deployed 25th CAB Soldiers wearing the 25th ID combat patch.



Spc. Mary Cris Waing (left), HHC, 25th CAB, “TF Wings,” 25th ID, receives her combat patch during a patch ceremony recognizing first-time deployers from Capt. Aaron Matthews, commander, HHC, 25th CAB, on the Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, March 8.



Sgt. Gaelen Lowers | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Sgt. Marco Rodriguez, operations noncommissioned officer, 8th TSC, attempts an attack on Sgt. 1st Class Crystal Irby, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the worldwide individual augmentation system for the 8th TSC, during the 8th STB’s Level 1 Combatives Certification at the physical fitness center at Fort Shafter, March 15.



Spc. Tiffany Dusterhoft | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Garner (right), network technician, 8th TSC, prepares to strike Sgt. Rafael Collazomoraes, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th STB, 8th TSC, during the 8th STB’s Level 1 Combatives Certification.



Sgt. Gaelen Lowers | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Soldiers from the 8th STB, 8th TSC, come together one last time after the 8th STB’s Level 1 Combatives Certification at the physical fitness center, Fort Shafter.

8th STB gets tested by combatives

SGT. GAELLEN LOWERS,
8th Theater Sustainment Command
Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — “Pain is temporary,” said Pfc. Talea Nettles.

Nettles is a security manager with the 8th Theater Sustainment Command and was the only female participant in the 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th TSC, Level 1 Army combatives program held at the gym, here, March 12-16.

During the 40-hour class, 12 Soldiers from the 8th STB participated and were certified in level one Army combatives.

“In the new Army combatives program, the Army is trying to catch Soldiers when they initially join the Army,” said Master Sgt. Jonathan Napier, noncommissioned officer in charge of training for the 8th TSC and a Level 4 master trainer in Army combatives.

“After they enter, they receive eight hours of Army combatives,” Napier said. “The goal is that once they complete basic training and arrive at their unit, they are allowed the opportunity to get certified.”

This training was the first of many scheduled Level 1 Army combatives classes that the 8th STB and Napier hope to teach in the coming months. According to Napier, initially, the program will be held monthly, but as the number of level one certified Soldiers increases, the program will move to a quarterly event.

“Level 1 is your basic ground grappling,” Napier said. “You get the fundamentals of working in the four positions that you will find yourself in if you and your opponent are on the ground: the mount, the rear mount, the guard and side control. You work on defending and escaping from those positions.”

Participating Soldiers said that they

learned a lot and had fun doing it.

“It’s been pretty intense this week,” said Staff Sgt. Thodore Rogers, aviation NCO, Support Operations, 8th TSC. “They taught us that in a fight, muscle isn’t nearly as important as technique. I had a blast.

“It’s not to often that you get paid to go rough somebody up,” Rogers continued. “Plus, it is great physical training. I’m sweating up a storm right now.”

Instructors said that Soldiers caught on quickly to techniques and moves, and they were excited to see that level of dedication and intensity from everyone involved.

“This builds morale, gives the Soldier that Warrior Ethos that we want to install in all Soldiers, and it promotes and displays one of the Army values, which is personal courage,” Napier explained. “They are being challenged physically, and at the end of the day, they really enjoy the lessons taught.

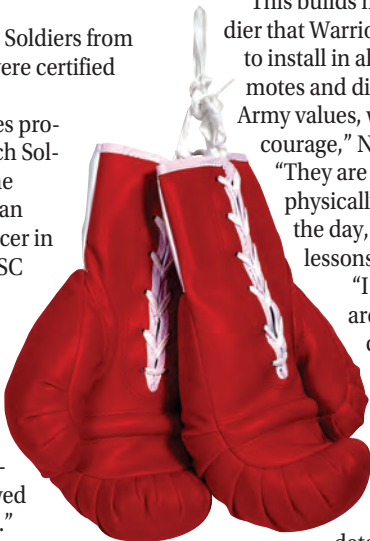
“I think all the Soldiers are progressing and excelling in the training,” Napier added. “It’s not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog.”

Size certainly didn’t deter Nettles when she came to class the first day and realized she was the only female.

“I was a little nervous at first, but after the guys saw that I could handle myself and take some hits, they came at me full speed,” she said. “I think it worked to my benefit because I got stronger. I can’t wait for the level two course.”

At the end of the day, each Soldier said they were proud of their accomplishment and they can’t wait to put that certification on their enlisted records brief, or ERB.

“It will be great to put that on my ERB,” Rogers said, and then added, “that and some ice on my arms and shoulders.”



Sgt. Gaelen Lowers | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Sgt. Marco Rodriguez (right), operations noncommissioned officer, 8th TSC, tries to put Pfc. Talea Nettles, security manager, 8th TSC, into a arm bar during the 8th STB’s Level 1 Combatives Certification.



Today

March Madness — Get free digital access to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament for computers, iPhone/iPod Touch, iPad and select Android phones. Register your .mil email address at www.ncaa.com/armedforces and receive access to a unique link to create a 2012 NCAA March Madness LiveT account.

A military email address is not needed for your account, but you do need to use the link to begin. A unique link will be assigned to you and your household.

Once the account is created login at www.ncaa.com/marchmadness and download NCAA March Madness LiveT apps on iPhone/iPod touch, iPad and select mobile apps. For assistance, email mmllivehelp@turner.com or call 855-566-5483.

Friday Night Entertainment Series — See new acts each and every week at 8 p.m. at Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks. Enjoy pau hana specials before the show. Call 655-4466.

25 / Sunday

Hawaii Canoe Paddling Lessons — Learn to paddleboard with Outdoor Recreation, 7:30 a.m.-noon, March 25. Cost is \$54. Register at 655-0143.

26 / Monday

Intramural Softball — Deadline is March 26 to register for intramural softball. The season runs from April 16-Aug. 31 at Fort Shafter's Takata Field.

An organizational meeting is scheduled 2 p.m., April 6, at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-0856.

Free Hula Classes — The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, conducts free hula classes for Soldiers and families. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com. Class dates follow:

- Mondays, Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.
- Tuesdays, AMR Community Center.

27 / Tuesday

Track and Field — Youth born 1994-2005 have until March 27 to register for track and field. Practice

FLAG DISPOSAL CEREMONY



Courtesy of Jim Bueche

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Boy Scouts from Troop 135 prepare to retire an American flag in a flag retirement ceremony at East Range, here, March 14. Before retiring the flags, the Scouts held a ceremony that included cutting each of the 13 stripes from one flag and lowering each stripe into the fire while reciting the name of the corresponding original colony. The blue field was lowered last into the fire. After singing "America," the Scouts retire the remaining flags.



Josh Carlton, 14, homeschooled, and Steven Frisbee, 12, Mililani Middle School, lower the flag into the fire for proper disposal.



Tyler Yogi, 15, Mililani High School, salutes the flag.

will be held at Watts Field for Schofield, Wheeler and HMR participants; practice is at the Tripler Track for AMR and Fort Shafter.

Call Joe Washington, Hawaii Army youth track and field director, at 433-2176.

28 / Wednesday

BOSS Meeting — Single Soldiers and geographic bachelors are invited to attend Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, meetings every Wednesday to discuss community service projects and upcoming

programs.

North meetings are held at 3 p.m., every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the Schofield Barracks Tropics Warrior Zone; South meetings are held at 10 a.m. every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the AMR Chapel. Call 655-1130.

29 / Thursday

Online Practice Tests — Free online practice tests, including CLEP, DSST, ASVAB, AFOQT, ASVAB, CLEP, GRE, SAT, ACT, GED, NCLEX-PN and NCLEX-RN for active duty,

family members and DOD civilians from 2-6 p.m., March 29, Sgt. Yano Library. Call 655-8001

Hawaiian Luau — Enjoy the all-you-can-eat luau buffet, every last Thursday of the month at the Nehe-lani, Schofield Barracks. Doors open at 5 p.m.; show starts at 6:30 p.m. Preferred seating is provided for Blue Star Card holders; call in advance, as space is limited. Cost is \$30 for ages 11 and older and \$15 for ages 10 and under. For reservations, call 655-4466.

See Briefs, B-5

community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

24 / Saturday

Animal Adoptions — The Hawaiian Humane Society will have dogs and cats available for adoption, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., March 24, in front of the Schofield Barracks Exchange. A small adoption fee includes benefits and services valued at more than \$250. All adoptions include two weeks of post-adoption medical support, as well as lifetime behavior support. Call 356-2223 or visit www.HawaiianHumane.org.

Warrior Dash — This fierce 5K event invites all athletic abilities to conquer 14 obstacles over more than three miles of extreme terrain, 9 a.m., March 24, Dillingham Ranch. Visit WarriorDash.com, <http://www.warriordash.com> or call (515) 321-4847.

28 / Wednesday
Tell Me A Story — The Education Coalition Schofield Barracks Parent to Parent team will present "Tell Me A Story," 5:30-7 p.m., March 28, Wheeler Elementary School, WAAF. This free family literacy event will feature

Wally "Famous Amos." He will read "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andree. Each family attending will receive a free copy of the book. RSVP to ptop.schofield@militarychild.org or call 888-0285 or (910) 977-8980.

29 / Thursday

Palm Circle Tour of Homes — The Hui O Wahine Fort Shafter Spouses Club is hosting a Tour of Homes, noon-4 p.m., March 29, Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Hui O' Wahine events or the Fort Shafter Thrift Shop. This event is open to the public. Email tourofhomes@huiowahine.com.

30 / Friday

Auto Show — The First Hawaiian International Auto Show will be held noon-10 p.m., March 30; 10 a.m.-10 p.m., March 31; and 10 a.m.-7 p.m., April 1. Admission is \$8 for adults (18 and older), \$6 for senior citizens (62 and older), \$6 for military (with any DOD ID card) and free for attendees 17 and younger. The auto show features everything from hybrids and the hottest new coupes and crossovers, to full-size trucks and test drives.

31 / Saturday

Hawaiian Scottish Festival — The Hawaiian Scottish Association, or HAS, is hosting this annual festival starting at 9 a.m., each day, March 31-April 1, at Kapiolani Park,

Honolulu. This free family event includes entertainment, games, a dancing competition, keiki activities, Scottish food and wares.

HSA will have tables in the clan tent for the Scottish American Military Society and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

April

5 / Thursday

Mermaids Water Show — Free Easter family entertainment 5:30 p.m., April 6, at the Princess Kaiulani Hotel, Waikiki, featuring synchronized swimming set to modern, Hawaiian and classical music. Visit www.mermaidshawaii.com.

Ongoing

MWR Survey — The Army is currently surveying random members of its communities at 75 garrisons worldwide as part of an effort to improve morale, welfare and recreation programs. The survey seeks to identify what customers are interested in, whether they are using available services and, if so, how satisfied they are with the programming their garrison has to offer.

Museum Reopens — The Tropic Lightning Museum, Schofield Barracks, has reopened. Normal operating hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., daily, Tuesday-Saturday. The museum is lo-

cated at Building 361, on the corner of Waianae Avenue and Flagler Road. Call 655-0438.

Funfest and Earth Day 2012 Coming April 7

Celebrate Earth Day with exhibits, activities and live entertainment, plus enjoy the annual Funfest with games, rides and inflatables from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks. Activities include the following:

- 8:30-9:30 a.m., Enchanted Breakfast; purchase tickets at ITR; call 655-9971.
- 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Funfest games, rides, inflatables and entertainment with Skies Unlimited and Travel Fair.
- 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Earth Day 2012 exhibits with the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative, Blue Planet Foundation, Solar City, Tetra Tech, Aqua Engineering, and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Funfest photos with the Easter Bunny. easy access.

worship Services

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
HMR: Helemano Chapel
MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
SC: Soldiers' Chapel, Schofield Barracks
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 Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF and FD
- Sunday services:
 - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 - 11 a.m. at TAMC

- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m. 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
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- 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

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
 - 9 a.m. at FD, MPC and TAMC chapels
 - 9 a.m. at WAAF chapel, Lutheran/Episcopalian
 - 10 a.m. at HMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at AMR

Single Soldiers' Bible Study

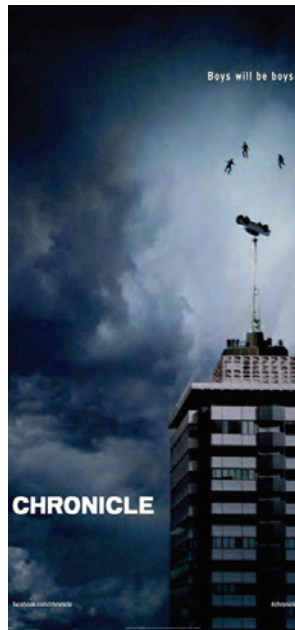
- Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at SC; lunch is provided.

Worship Service

- Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the MOVIES

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aafes.com under realtime movie listing.



Chronicle

(PG-13)
Fri., March 23, 7 p.m.

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island

(PG-13)
Sat., March 24, 4 p.m.
Sun., March 25, 2 p.m.
Thurs., March 29, 7 p.m.

Safe House

(R)
Sat., March 24, 7 p.m.
Wed., March 28, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
ACS: Army Community Service
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan

AFTB: Army Family Team Building
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation
BCT: Brigade Combat Team
BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
Co.: Company
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services

EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation
FRG: family readiness group
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation

IPC: Island Palm Communities
SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield

Welfare of Army families in the Pacific is a top priority

Story and Photo by
VANESSA LYNCH
News Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Ferriters know what it means to be “Army strong.” They grew up on military bases, lived on military bases and raised their families on military bases.

Margie Ferriter, wife of Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, commander, Installation Management Command, visited various U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii installations and organizations during her visit to Hawaii, March 19-21.

Her itinerary allowed her to discuss issues and policies currently in place, at each location, as the welfare of Army families is a top priority for her and her husband.

“We wanted to reassure Soldiers and families out here in the Pacific that Army leadership cares about them and that we are committed to taking care of them,” she said. “Times are tough, but we will get through them as long as we stick together.”

Ferriter spoke with senior spouses during an office call and lunch at the Nehelani, here, Monday. She candidly discussed their concerns about how new fiscal realities will affect military communities in Hawaii.

She received briefings at Army Community Service, where she learned how programs like Blue Star Card and Family Advocacy are ensuring world-class customer service — despite

funding and personnel shortfalls; at Island Palm Communities, where she toured the Kalakaua Community Center and a home; and at Grant Hall in the Soldier Family Assistance Center, where she met with Soldiers who are on the road back to the fight. Ferriter also talked to others who have transitioned out of the Army and started their own business as a result of the SFAC’s Small Business program.

Briefers at the newly renovated Teen Center highlighted the center’s remodel.

Rounding out Monday’s schedule, the School Liaison Office briefed Ferriter on the challenges Army families face in terms of education. The SLO also explained what is being done to level the playing field in Hawaii.

At Fort Shafter’s Survivor Outreach Services Center, on her second day, Ferriter met with families who have lost loved ones. Despite having lost her husband nine years ago, Brandi Williams said the wounds are still fresh.

“Having a place like the SOS Center to come to has helped me and my daughters cope with our loss,” Williams said.

Later Tuesday, family readiness group leaders and family readiness support assistants gave updates about Hawaii issues.

Ferriter ended the day with a tour through the Fisher House at Tripler Army Medical Center. The Fisher House provides free or low-cost lodging to veterans and military families receiving treatment at military medical centers.



Margie Ferriter (right), wife of Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, commander, IMCOM, talks with Lis Olsen, director, SOS, about the photos of the service men and women that hang on the center’s Wall of Honor and Remembrance, during her visit, Tuesday.

Ferriter said she has always been and will continue to be a "listening post" as she supports her husband in his new role as IMCOM commander.

"He can talk about policy, but I can listen and relate to the experience of raising children in the military and other concerns our

family members may have," she said.

Ferriter's empathy comes from more than 30 years of experience.

She is an Army wife and an Army mom of Dr. Meghan Ferriter, Capt. Dan Ferriter, Capt. Paddy Ferriter and 1st Lt. Mary Whitney Whittaker.

USAG-HI Religious Support Office announces Holy Week, Passover services



The U.S. Army Hawaii community is invited to attend various Easter celebrations now through April 24. The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Religious Support Office offers services in north and south Oahu areas.

Holy Week Services

North Community

- Main Post Chapel Schofield Barracks*
April 5, noon, Living Stations of the Cross
April 6, 6 p.m., The 7 Last Sayings of Christ (Gospel Service)
April 7, 7 p.m., Easter Vigil
April 8, 6:30 a.m., Easter Sunrise Service
April 8, 10:30 a.m., Easter Mass

- Wheeler Army Airfield*
March 28, 6:30 p.m., Reconciliation Service
April 5, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday (Catholic)

April 7, 5 p.m. (Mass Canceled)

- Soldiers Chapel*
April 5, 6 p.m., Maundy Thursday (Liturgical Service)

South Community

- Aliamanu Military Reservation*
April 6, 7 p.m., Good Friday Service (Catholic)
- Fort DeRussy*
April 5, 7 p.m., Maundy Thursday (Protestant)
April 6, 7 p.m. Good Friday Service (Protestant)

Passover Services

All regular scheduled services will be conducted at their normal time.

April 6, 5 p.m., Hale Koa Hotel, Seder Meal.
Cost is free for military and family members, E-1 thru E-5; \$35 per person for active duty E-6 and above and family member; and \$65 for civilians.
Parking is \$3 validated, at the parking garage across the street.
Call Brian Field, 348-4560, BombGuy64@hotmail.com, for more details.

April 7, 7 p.m., Ala Moana Hotel, Passover observance.
Cost is \$60 per person; \$45 children, if paid by March 31; \$75 per person, \$55 children after March 31.
Free parking in the Ala Moana mall parking lot.
Call Paul Krasnjansky, 735-8161, for more details.

Cont. from Briefs , B-2

30 / Friday
Hawaiian Luau Buffet
— Every last Friday of the month, enjoy the Hawaiian luau lunch buffet at Fort Shafter’s Hale Ikena or Schofield Barracks’ Kolekole Bar and Grill. Cost is \$10.95 per person. Call the Hale Ikena at 438-1974 or Kolekole Bar and Grill at 655-0660.

April
7 / Saturday
Learn to Swim — Register April 7-8 for session 2 class dates, April 9-19. Keiki must be registered with CYSS. Visit www.himwr.com.

Ongoing
Vehicle Safety Inspection — Don’t forget to check your vehicle inspection sticker located on your vehicle’s right rear bumper to see if it’s about to expire or already has. No appointment is necessary. Call Fort Shafter’s Auto Skills Center at 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368.

Cosmic Bowling — Cosmic Bowling starts at 3 p.m., Saturdays, and 1-5 p.m., Sundays, at the Fort Shafter Bowling Center. Cosmic Bowling at the Schofield Bowling Center starts at 10 p.m., Fridays; 8 p.m., Saturdays; and 6 p.m., Sundays. Call 438-6733 for Fort Shafter or 655-0573 for Schofield.

Free Auto Skills Class — Spouses of deployed Soldiers can learn how to check their vehicle’s oil, fluids and tire pressure. Schedule an appointment at the Fort Shafter Auto Skills Center by calling 438-9402.

No-Show Policy — Blue Star Card holders who register for an event and can’t attend need to cancel their reservation by noon the day before the event. Without cancellation, BSC holders will be considered no-shows. Email amanda.p.montgomery@us.army.mil.

FMWR — Outprocessing Soldiers in the Fort Shafter, Aliamanu and TAMC areas can be cleared for Directorate of FMWR services at the AMR Physical Fitness Center, Building 1780, 176 Kauhini Rd. Call 836-0338. Soldiers in the Schofield Barracks, HMR and WAAF areas can clear at the Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 556, Heard Ave., Schofield Barracks; call 655-0143.

Soldiers, commander test 1,000-pound club

Story and Photo by
SGT. CHRIS HUDDLESTON
45th Sustainment Brigade,
8th Theater Sustainment Command
KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — It isn’t every day young Soldiers receive the chance to challenge their brigade commander, but that’s just what two Soldiers from the 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command’s Staff Judge Advocate, or SJA, office did.
Spc. Jay Helmke and Pfc. Milton Watford wanted to join the 1,000-Pound Club at the Kandahar Airfield Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Gym and challenged Col. Jeffrey Drushal, commander, 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC, to do the same.
The challenge consisted of three lifts: the dead lift, bench press and squat. Participants needed to accumulate more than 1,000 pounds using one repetition of each lift.
Capt. Christopher Cross, brigade judge advocate, 45th Sust. Bde., saw the opportunity for “two of the youngest Soldiers in the brigade to be the first to join the 1,000-Pound Club.”
“It was a personal achievement that Helmke and I came up with,” said Watford, paralegal specialist, 45th

Sust. Bde. “Capt. Cross overheard us talking about it, and he challenged the commander for us.”
“It felt good to accomplish our goal,” Helmke said, also a paralegal specialist with the 45th Sust. Bde. “Now I have a base number. My total was 1155 pounds, and I can try to improve throughout the year. I hope to get my total above 1,300 pounds before we leave (Kandahar).”
Their dedication to improvement is an important part of the Army’s Warrior Ethos.
“They are a great example (to other Soldiers) because they have competitive spirit, they’re confident in their abilities, and are willing to take risks for the betterment of themselves and others,” Drushal said. “They are the epitome of the Warrior Ethos.”
Drushal refers to the Soldiers as “The Twin Towers.” Helmke stands at 6 feet, 5 inches, and Watford at 6 feet, 4 inches.
“At first, I thought it was going to be an easy challenge,” Drushal said. “Then I saw them working out and knew I had my work cut out for me.”
All three participants accomplished what they set out to do and ,are now members of the KAF MWR Gym’s



Col. Jeffrey Drushal, commander, 45th Sust. Bde., finishes his final lift and successfully joins the KAF MWR Gym's 1000-Pound Club, in Kandahar, Afghanistan, March 9. The club requires prospective members to lift a combined total of over 1000 pounds over three lifts: the dead lift, bench press and squat.
1,000 Pound Club, but Watford came out at the head of the pack with 1,180 pounds, in total.
“It felt great to accomplish my goal,” Watford said. “I wanted to beat the top contender’s spot on the board, which is currently a total weight of 1,545 pounds.”
Drushal was also pleased with his results.
“I am happy with it,” Drushal said. “The squat was the lift I was really

proud of because it took a long time. I think I aged a year on the way up.”
The event showed that, from the youngest Soldiers to their senior officers, physical fitness is important to every member of the Army.
“This was an outstanding performance by two outstanding paralegals,” Cross said. “The support that Helmke and Watford got from everyone in 45th really speaks to how well the ‘45th Family’ is coming together.”