HAWAII VEEKLY

Serving the U.S. Army Community in Hawaii * www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com

INSIDE Q and A

Got questions that need answering? USAG-HI will host a Facebook town hall, 6:30 p.m., Aug. 31.

See Community Calendar, B-2



Rising stars

Community members shine during annual singing competition.

B-1



Refueling

25th CAB builds unit cohesion during FARP training.

A-5



Port support

18th Trans. Det. lends a hand in unloading more than 500 pieces of equipment.

A-4



Photos by Sgt. Karl Williams | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

Staff Sgt. Eduardo Oviedo, Co. B, 209th ASB, 25th CAB, 25th ID, ensures that the sling set and bellyband are properly secured prior to the extraction of a damaged OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter during a simulated DART

25th CAB's DART hones skills during aerial emergency exercise

25TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS 25th Infantry Division

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD – At approximately 1 a.m., 10 Downed Aircraft Recovery Team, or DART, Soldiers assembled and were notified that an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter had been notionally shot down by simulated small arms fire, here, Aug. 15.

Capt. Kyle Gaylor, executive officer, Company B, 209th Aviation Support Battalion, 25th Combat Avn. Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, noted the aircrew had quickly been recovered, and an aerial extraction of the OH-58D was required, based on the initial battle damage assessment provided by the crew.

The exercise was part of the brigade's culminating training event that was conducted at the Joint Readiness Training centers in Fort Polk, La.; Fort Carson, Colorado; and here.

The DART is comprised of 25th CAB Soldiers who hold a variety of military occupation specialties linked to a particular set of tasks required of the team. These MOSs include mechanics, technical inspectors, electricians and airframe specialists.

The job of 25th CAB's DART is to rapidly respond throughout the battle space with the necessary assets to recover and evacuate downed aircraft to the nearest maintenance facility, according to Gaylor.

After conducting pre-combat checks and inspections on all personnel and equipment, and then executing a thorough mission briefing, the DART boarded a CH-47F Chinook helicopter from Co. B, 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regiment, 25th CAB, to recover the downed Kiowa Warrior.

At the accident site, Soldiers from the team immediately established security and communications, as team members began assessing the damage and rigging the bellyband and 25,000-pound-capacity sling set, prior to the aerial extraction of the Kiowa Warrior.

Approximately 30 minutes later, the simulated, damaged Kiowa Warrior was secured, and the DART Soldiers and aircraft were ready to be extracted.

"Today's objective was meant to be a learning experience to meritoriously respond after we received a Fallen Angel' report, while ensuring everyone gets some hands-on training," said Staff Sgt. Eduardo Oviedo, DART noncommissioned officer in charge, Co. B, 209th ASB.

"It's always better to think of the worst-case scenario," Oviedo said, to the DART Soldiers after they completed the training event. "An initial report can't tell you everything. You have to take it upon yourselves to think outside the box and be prepared for the worst if an aircraft goes down."



A CH-47F Chinook crew from Co. B, 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, slowly lowers a damaged OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter to the ground during a simulated DART exercise, recently.

Army provides easier base access to families of fallen

INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND News Release

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD - Survivors, here, are now able to apply for a survivor decal, much like the standard installation access decal for their vehicle, greatly improving their ability to access the programs designed to support them.

During a Survivor Outreach Services working group meeting last year, several participants expressed difficulty while gaining access to military installations to take part in SOS programs and support services. Survivors, including parents of fallen Soldiers, do

Installation access decal

For more information and to obtain an application, call the SOS Center at 438-9285/1956.

not always have a Department of Defense identification card and are frequently required to get a visitor or temporary vehicle pass to enter installations.

SEE DECAL, A-7



Members and future members of the Hawaii SAMC chapter collect donated Class A uniforms to be given to Hawaii Multiple School JROTC, Aug. 15

SAMC helps leads way for future Soldiers

Story and Photos by SPC. TIFFANY DUSTERHOFT 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - During the last few months, Soldiers from throughout Oahu have been donating their phased-out Army Class A uniforms for a good cause.

"I'm here with the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, donating Class A uniforms to support the local high schools' JROTC students, here, on island," said Sgt. Maj. Jeff Fairley, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade.

SEE SAMC, A-7

Hawaii's ACT refocuses program to better suit needs of Soldiers, families

Policy updates DOD releases info on retirement changes, Purple Hearts, disability ratings and the GI Bill. This issue

Footsteps in Faith

A-3

Deployed Forces News Briefs FMWR B-2 Health

Sgt. 1st Class David Wheeler, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, auditions for the ACT's production of "The Rocky Horror Show," Aug. 22.

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD -Hawaii's Army Community Theatre, or ACT, is gearing up for a transition from its current program to return its focus to Soldiers and their family members. Richardson Theatre on Fort Shafter

STEPHANIE BRYANT

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

has functioned as the home for ACT since 1987, but the building closed in April for renovations.

"(The closure allowed) us to take a step back and look at the program," said Brett Harwood, managing/artistic director of ACT. "Now, since (the theater) is shut down anyways, we decided to re-evaluate whom it is we are serving, how we are serving them and how we can more effectively serve our target audience."

The size of Richardson Theatre and the pressure to fill more than 800 seats

caused the program to get off track nity's needs have changed while the nafrom its main goal of focusing on Soldiers and their families, Harwood explained.

tion has been fighting in two wars.

Currently, ACT will be functioning out of Tropics Recreation Center on

"That's really why Army theater is there. To reach out and help people develop skills and give them an opportunity to participate. Friendships are formed, and it turns into a kind of support group."

— Ron Locklar

Chief, Community Recreation Div., DFMWR, USAG-HI

He added, ACT is important in a lot of people's hearts, and therefore, the theater program is not going away. He explained that ACT is just refocusing its program and trying to adapt to the needs of the Army community, as the commuSchofield Barracks. This move will help facilitate an increase in Soldier and family member participation in the

SEE ACT, A-6

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army 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 656-3488, 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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Commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Col. Douglas S. Mulbury **Director, Public Affairs** Dennis C. Drake Chief, Internal Communication

Aiko Rose Brum, 656-3155 aiko.brum@us.army.mil **Managing Editor**

Lacey Justinger, 656-3488 editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com **News Editor**

Vanessa Lynch, 656-3150 vanessa@ hawaiiarmyweekly.com Pau Hana Editor

Vickey Mouze, 656-3156 community@ hawaiiarmyweekly.com **Staff Writer** Stephanie Bryant, 656-3489

reporter@ hawaiiarmyweekly.com Layout

Nicole Gilmore **Web Content** Stephanie Rush, 656-3153 stephanie.anne.rush@

us.army.mil Advertising: 529-4700 Classifieds: 521-9111

Address: Public Affairs Office 742 Santos Dumont Ave.,

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331 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 08/25/11.

Straight Talk

Parents need to teach their kids about online safety

VANESSA LYNCH

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD - Today's children are technological mavens; they are the masters of multitasking and can watch TV, listen to music, post comments on Facebook, trend on Twitter - all while doing their algebra homework.

Gone are the days where kids play freely outside until the sun goes down; nowadays, children spend more time glued to technology than in generations past.

With this dependency on technology, a new world of worry opens for parents.

Parents are urged to take proactive measures and monitor what technologies their children have access to, as well as with whom they are communicating with at the other end.

Since today's kids are already riding the wave of the future - and are typically light-years ahead of their parents - suites of software are available that enable parents to monitor instant messaging and chat sessions, and to view where their child surfed online and what pictures have been downloaded or exchanged.

If installing secret hardware seems too complicated, talking with your children about the hidden dangers that linger in cyberspace is always the best option.

The Internet is an amazing tool for everyone. It can help students do research for colleges or homework assignments; it allows people to work from home, and it can be used for pure entertainment. No matter what the reason, the Internet can be quite the powerful tool.

The problem is, some problems with the Internet

could involve your child's safety. The Hawaii Internet child's name if your service allows. Steer away from on-Crimes Against Children Task Force has compiled some useful information for both young and old alike.

•Do not give personal information such as your address, telephone number, parent's work address or telephone number, or the name and location of your school.

•Tell your parents if something that you come across online makes you feel uncomfortable.

•Never agree to get together with someone you meet online without your parents' permission. If your parents agree to the meeting, be sure the meeting is in a public place and that you bring your parents along.

•Never respond to messages or bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening or make you feel uncomfortable. Give a copy of such messages to your parents and have your parents forward these messages to your Internet service provider.

•Never send pictures of yourself or any other personal material to a friend you meet online without telling your parents first.

•Follow the rules that your parents set for your online activities.

For grownups

•Become more computer literate; get to know the services your child uses. Find out what types of information your service offers and whether built-in programs can block out objectionable material.

line profiles. Pedophiles often use profiles as a means to find victims.

•Never allow a child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without permission. If a meeting is arranged, make the first meeting in a

public place and accompany your child to the meeting. •Do not allow your child to respond to messages or bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent or threatening. Forward a copy of such mes-

sages to your Internet service provider. •Call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678 if you are aware of transmission, use or viewing of child pornography

•Never give out any personal information, such as your address, telephone number, work number or your child's school name.

•Keep the computer in your family room − so you can watch and monitor your child's activities.

•Share an email account with your child so that you

can oversee his or her mail. •Spend as much time as possible online together to

show your children proper behavior and rules. •Do not allow your children to go into private chat

rooms without you being present. •Consider using an online service that has special child accounts with restricted access to chat rooms

(Editor's Note: Information was compiled from •Consider using a pseudonym or unlisting your http://hawaii.gov/ag/hicac/main/Safety.)

Letters to the Editor

Alcohol consumption banned during extended weekends

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter as a community outreach to help educate the Army community, here.

On July 2, I was invited to go boating with some friends. We ended up at the Kaneohe Bay Sandbar.

Shortly after anchoring the boat, I

was approached by a Division of Conservation and Resources enforcement officer, who asked me if I was drinking. My reply was, "Yes sir.' He then asked me if I was aware of

the rule. My reply was, "No, I'm new

He then gave me a citation for consumption of alcohol while in a boat in the safety zone. Based on the citation, I was or-

dered to appear at the State Land

board members. After hearing my case, the board was lenient to my situation, and I ended up paying a fine

Board Meeting to state my case to the

I am writing this letter to the Army community. I highly recommend for you to plan, research, educate and conduct a risk assessment prior to any outdoor and/or boating recreation activity. This incident is a lesson learned for me; it will serve as a great tool to protect you from having to sit in front of the board members or a judge.

Enjoy your time in Hawaii and respect the rules.

- Sgt. Patrick Miller

303rd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 9th Mission Support Command

Dear Editor.

The reason that I am writing this letter is to inform my comradesin-arms and their families of an incident that took place during this past Fourth of July holiday week-

I was issued a violation for consuming alcohol on the Sandbar, near the board. I was facing fines from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, during the four-day weekend.

I was unaware of any policy that prohibits possession and consumption of alcohol.

As of June 28, the Board of Land and Natural Resources issued a policy making it illegal to be in possession of or to consume alcohol in

Zone H, which is located over the Sandbar, during any three- or four-day

weekend. After being issued my violation, I received a mandatory court date where I could plead my case to \$50-\$1,000.

I was ordered to pay the minimum fine of \$50. I also agreed to help educate my peers of this new policy, with a warning that the board would not be so lenient to future offenders.

Pfc. Heather Klotz

3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

Boating Under the Influence

Hawaii Administrative Rule, title 13, chapter 256, section 13-256-73.13, addresses activities that pose an imminent peril to public health, safety or morals. It establishes a safety zone around Ahu o Laka, or the the Kaneohe Sandbar, that prohibits alcohol and drugs on three- or fourday weekends that include state holidays. The safety zone covers more than a square mile and is defined by marker buoys.

A prohibition is in effect on the possession or consumption of alcohol and other intoxicating substances within the most frequently

This ban includes a prohibition on entering or remaining in such area while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or drugs. This ban also prohibits disorderly conduct.

Violations are subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or not less than \$50 for each violation, in addition to possible administrative

(Editor's Note: Information complied from a Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources news release.)



and the Internet.

Breaking ground

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — A groundbreaking and blessing by Kahu Nettie Tiffany (right) was held for the Schofield Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades and construction projects, here, Aug. 19. The project includes upgrading approximately 30,000 sewer pipelines and 16,000 transmission lines, as well as building a 1-million-gallon storage tank and pump station on Schofield Barracks.

The representatives who participated were, from left to right, Kevin Harvey, general contractor, Harvey Brothers; Trey Maddox, Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii; Alan Goo, deputy director, DPW; Walter Kaneakua, executive assistant for Military Affairs, Office of Sen. Dan Inouye; Ian Kagimoto, president and chairman, Board of Directors, Aqua Engineers Inc.; David Paul, Army operations group manager, Aqua Engineers Inc.; and Daniel Goodfellow, general contractor, Goodfellow Brothers Inc.

Hope helps us soar above hardships

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) SAMUEL OLMOS Deputy Chaplain, North Community

A recent FoxNews.com headline read, "Jobless. Homeless. Hopeless."

Where do you find your hope? What

the better?

gives you that assurance that things will work out for

Hope is a beautiful thing. Hope is something should be spewing from the doors of every chapel; it is why I go to church.

Sometimes, we do not feel hopeful. Instead, what comes out of us is fear, anger and frustration. Life can feel like a major disappointment.

Sometimes, we even find ourselves arguing with and questioning God.

Have you ever found yourself questioning God? Have you ever said, "God, why didn't you stop me from getting into this difficult relationship?" or "God, why do I have so many problems?"

Many of us have questioned God during difficult times.

God's chosen people, the children of

Israel, did their share of complaining and questioning. Isaiah 40:27 says, "Why do you say, oh Jacob, and complain, oh Israel, my way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God?" In other words, the Israelites felt like God was not listening and God did not care about what they were going through.

Have you ever felt like God was nowhere to be found and that God simply stopped caring about you?

Isaiah 40:28 tells us "the Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary," and no one can fathom his understanding.

"He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak," verse 29

Those who are "tired and weary," who 'stumble and fall," but "who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint," Isaiah continues.

God understands your struggle and intends to give you strength. Place your hope in God, and he will lift you above your problems. You will feel the joy of soaring with God "on wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).

"We promote a lot of reading in our home,

and school always done as a family."

homework is Jodi Brum

with their homework and attend all their school functions and activities.'

"I help them

Sherry Chaicharn



"I correspond regularly with their teachers to head off any predicament before it becomes a problem."

Amei Calori Mullins Personnel Support schoolwork with them and make sure they complete their homework."

"I review their

Teresa **Pipersky**

How do you help your kids succeed in school? Photos by 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

> "I make sure that they have all their school supplies, they are well rested and their homework is done every day." Pfc. Elly

Tessendorf
185th MI Co.,
2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav.,

DOD reviews veterans' current disability ratings

FORT CARSON, Colo. - About 25 percent of post-9/11 veterans reported a serviceconnected disability in July 2010, according to U.S. Labor Department statistics, in March.

Nearly a third had a disability rating of less than 30 percent.

Ratings of 10 and 20 percent pay out \$123 and \$243, respectively, per month, according to the latest Veterans Affairs compensation benefits rate tables. After 30 percent, benefits have the possibility of increased payments, dependent compensations, disability retirement and access to the Tricare military health pro-

The Physical Disability Board of Review, or PDBR, was established "to review the disability determinations of covered individuals by Physical Evaluation Boards," according to the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act of 2008.

The PDBR re-evaluates records for anyone who served in the armed forces between Sept. 11, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2009, with a disability rating of 20 percent or less.

"Congress put this board in place so we can correct inaccurately rated disabilities, so we can afford (veterans) what they should have been afforded in the first place," said Michael LoGrande, director, PDBR.

LoGrande said PDBR applicants receive an objective, Department of Defense-level review of their previously filed disability ratings.

"Congress made it incredibly clear to everyone that it's apparent the services are artificially suppressing disability ratings, across all of the services. Only five percent of the eligible population has applied," LoGrande said.

Cases include traumatic brain injury, posttraumatic stress disorder, limb dysfunction or loss of vision or hearing.

"If you apply to the PDBR, you don't have to prove there was an error or injustice," Lo-Grande said. "We look at everything available and see what can be rated."

Almost all of the PDBR findings have resulted in a correction of military records, he added.

Each board combines a medical officer alongside two senior line officers, who represent the veteran's branch of service. The board may endorse rating modifications, additions or recharacterizations to retirement. The board is not authorized to recommend reductions, according to the bill passed in 2008.

The Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act of 2008 legislation also funded the creation of pilot programs for the Disability Evaluation System, which are projected to reduce processing times and standardize policies across military departments.

"(PDBR) is an opportunity to correct a Soldier's military record, as it pertains to their medical board rating," said Edward Butler, an Army Wounded Warrior program advocate, here. "It will assist not just the Soldiers, but also their families."



Post-9/11 veterans with a combined disability rating of 20 percent or less can apply to the PDBR at www.health.mil/pdbr.

Injured should resubmit for Purple Hearts

Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Active duty and reserve component Soldiers, as well as veterans, who were denied Purple Heart awards for concussive or mild traumatic brain injuries, or MTBIs, are encouraged to resubmit documentation for reconsideration of the medal.

Since the Vietnam War, concussions or MT-BIs caused as a direct result of an enemy action have been an injury that warranted the award of the Purple Heart, according to Defense Department guidelines. Nevertheless, field commanders have sometimes been unclear on what constituted a concussion.

With medical advances in the treatment and knowledge of concussion and MTBI injuries, the Army has been able to further identify the characteristics of the unseen wound and clarify guidance for Purple Heart entitlement, said Col. Tom Quinn, chief, Soldiers Programs and Services Division, Army Human Resources Com-

"In the past, concussion or MTBI injuries were very hard to diagnose," Quinn said. "Treatments varied and were not the same across the board, and medical officers weren't always documenting that information in the Soldiers' records.'

To receive a Purple Heart, a wound has to be the result of enemy or hostile action, and a medical officer must document the treatment for that injury in a Soldier's official medical records, Quinn said.

While personnel other than a physician may



requirements available is https://www.hrc.army.mil/awards.



Soldiers who were denied Purple Heart awards, like the one pictured above, for concussive or MTBIs, are encouraged to resubmit documentation for reconsideration of the medal

have performed the treatment, a medical officer must solely document the prescribed treatment.

For Purple Heart award reconsideration, the injury must have occurred on or after Sept. 11,

Active duty and Reserve Soldiers must work with their chains of command, through the first general officer, and submit a copy of their deployment orders, various Department of Army forms, a one-page narrative describing the incident and the conditions under which the Soldier was wounded.

"Two eyewitness statements, some type of incident report of the action or the cause of the wound that was the result of enemy action,

and documented treatment by a medical officer in the Soldier's official medical records are needed," Ouinn said.

Veterans should submit packages directly to HRC. They can obtain copies of their deployment orders from the Veteran's Inquiry Branch at veterans@conus.army.mil.

Veterans will also need to submit their DD Form 214, a certificate of release or discharge from active duty.

Submission for reconsideration is not a guarantee of approval. HRC's Awards and Decorations Branch will make the final determination, and then notify the Soldier or veteran on the board's decision in about 30 days.

Retirement changes won't affect serving military

DOD needs to make some tough budget choices about personnel, health care and other benefits

> JIM GARAMONE American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said, Monday, that if the military retirement system changes, it will not affect currently serving service members.

"I will not break faith," the secretary said, during a roundtable meeting with military media representatives in the Pentagon, here.

Panetta's predecessor, Robert Gates, asked the Defense Business Board to look at the military retirement system and make recommendations. The final report is due later this month, but Panetta said he is familiar with the outlines of the proposal.

retirement, he said.

"People who have come into the service, who have put their lives on the line, who have been deployed to the war zones, who fought for this country, who have been promised certain benefits for that - I'm not going to break faith with what's been promised to them," Panetta said.

People in the service today will come under the current retirement system, which gives retirees 50 percent of their base pay after 20 years of service. Most service members do not spend 20 years in the military, and, therefore, they do not get any retirement benefits when they leave the service.



"Does that stop you from making changes?" Panetta asked. "No, because obviously you can 'grandfather' people in terms of their benefits. and then look at what changes you want to put in place for people who become members of the all-volunteer force in the future."

Health care is another area that has to be dealt with, the secretary said.

"I certainly haven't made any decisions" on health care bill was \$19 billion. It is more than neighborhood of \$60 billion in future years. Among proposals Congress is contemplating is an increase in some of Tricare's military health plan premium payments.

> "I think those recommendations make sense," Panetta said. "Especially with tight budgets, it does make sense that people contribute a bit more with regards to getting that coverage."

DOD has a responsibility to look at all aspects

of the budget, the secretary said, and officials at the Pentagon are doing that.

"If you are serious about getting the deficit down," Panetta said, "you have to deal with the mandatory side of the budget and taxes."

The secretary said he believes the budget crunch represents an opportunity to make the DOD a more efficient, effective and agile force that still can deal with the threats of the future.

"Frankly, a lot of this can be done through efficiencies; a lot of it can be done looking at the administrative side of the programs," he said. "What can we do to make these programs more efficient?"

The department also needs to ask how to provide benefits for troops and their families that will be effective at ensuring the nation always has a strong volunteer force, Panetta said.

"That's a debate and discussion that it's impor-In fiscal year 2001, the Department of Defense tant for the Defense Department to have, the White House to have, the Congress to have and \$50 billion now, he said, and it soars to the the country to have," he said. "(We) need to have that debate about 'how are we going to do this in a way that maintains the best military in the world."

The Defense Department will face some tough choices, Panetta acknowledged.

"I think the bottom line is, this can be an opportunity to shape something very effective for the future that can still represent the best defense system in the world," he said.

Active duty Soldiers, spouses to receive funding for textbooks under GI Bill changes



Eligible beneficiaries can also receive housing allowance, fee reimbursement

> C. TODD LOPEZ **Army News Service**

WASHINGTON - Active duty Soldiers and their spouses will soon be able to get funding for books and supplies as part of the

Beginning Oct. 1, active duty members and their spouses can receive up to \$1,000 for books and supplies, per academic year, as part of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Active duty members were not previously eligible for the books and supplies funding.

Additional benefits to service members and veterans include reimbursement of fees for exams used for admission to colleges. Such exams include the ACT, GMAT or SAT.

Changes to the bill also mean reimbursement for more than one licensing or certification examination. Additionally, expanded benefits for non-college degree programs, on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, flight programs and correspondence

training are available. "I think the great thing about these changes (is) that it brings a lot more training options under the umbrella of this already robust program," said Keith Wilson, director, education service,

Department of Veterans Affairs. If veterans who are newly enrolled in the program are entitled to the housing allowance, they can receive that benefit while enrolled in certificate, non-college degree programs or even longdistance learning. Active duty Soldiers and their spouses do not qualify for this benefit. Veterans enrolled in distance learning

could receive up to 50 percent of the housing allowance provided to those who enrolled in on-campus education programs. The housing allowance for those in resident training is now prorated based on a student's course load. A student taking a

course load that is approximately 80 percent of what a school deems "full time" would receive 80 percent of the housing allowance. Housing allowance for an in-resident student taking a full load is equivalent to the basic housing allowance for a sergeant with dependents.

Additional changes to benefits under the bill include elimination of housing payments for short-gap periods between enrollments. In the past, during the less-than-one-month breaks between semesters, beneficiaries could continue to receive housing payments. But that is no longer the case, Wilson said.

Students will have to practice some "sound financial management" on their own to make rent payments during the short nonenrollment periods between semesters. Wilson pointed out that under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, beneficiaries have never received housing allowance during the three-month summer break.

When beneficiaries did receive housing payments between enrollments, Wilson said they were actually burning up part of their benefits. The bill provides for 36 months of benefits. If a student was getting just housing benefits for the nearly one-monthperiod between the fall and spring semesters that would burn up a month of benefits.

The new change in the law also affects payment eligibility and accounts for active duty service performed by National Guard members under Title 32.



A summary of recent changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill can be found at gibill.va.gov/benefits/post _911_gibill/Post91 1_changes.html.



Spc. Kayla Thomas I 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Sgt. Daniel Schroeder I 25th CAB Public Affairs, 25th ID

Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., "Hammerhead," 25th CAB, 25th ID, brace themselves against rotor wash as they prepare to hook up a sling-load of fence materials to a CH-47 Chinook helicopter, in support of a preservation mission on Oahu's Kawailoa Mountain

Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., "Hammerhead," 25th CAB, 25th ID, hook up a sling-load of fence materials to a CH-47 Chinook helicopter, recently.

25th CAB aids DPW with Kawailoa Mountain Range preservation

SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER

25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - An ongoing mission to preserve multiple endangered species of plants on Oahu's Kawailoa Mountain Range got a little help from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, recently.

The Oahu Army Natural Resource Program, Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, continued its preservation mission and constructed a perimeter fence around a frog pond on the Kawailoa Mountain Range to restrict wildlife from eating the endangered plants.

"It is very hard to protect the plants on the mountainside," said Vince Costello, a rare snail conservation specialist, OANRP. "Sev-

eral factors – like wild pigs, goats and weeds – are taking over the natural habitats." natural habitat, which creates a problem for the plants to thrive. The goal is to limit the animals' access to the endangered plants by constructing a fence around the habitat.'

The habitat that DPW is trying to preserve is located in a remote area, inaccessible by ground vehicles. To reach the location with fencing material, DPW worked with the 25th CAB to airlift the materials needed for the preservation.

"Our training and capabilities within the 25th CAB allows us to serve the communities in conservation missions like this," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jason Wainwright, flight operations officer in charge, 3rd Battalion, 25th Avn. Regiment, "Hammerhead," 25th CAB. "It is important to preserve local rare Hawaiian plants in their

The capabilities of 25th CAB aircraft allow for more materials to be lifted to remote locations, while decreasing the time needed and erosion that would occur if transported by ground.

"This is the third big fence move we have performed," said Matt Keir, rare plant program manager, OANRP. "The 25th CAB does a lot for the community; they help with conservation projects, prescribed burns and assist in fighting wildfires."

"The U.S. Army in Hawaii is very conscience of endangered species and preservation. We are very happy to help other government agencies ... take care of the Hawaiian Islands," said Col. Frank Tate, commander, 25th CAB. "We are proud to have been a part of this mission.'



Staff Sgt. Richard Myers | 18th Transportation Detachment, 45th Special Troops Battalion 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command

Sgt. Edmond Hotchkiss (right) from 18th Trans. Det.'s MCT, 45th STB, 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC, directs a U.S. Navy forklift driver in the container yard at JBPHH, Aug. 5.

Versatile MCT has unique mission that supports units' redeployments

18th Trans. Det. unit works with air, sea, truck, rail assets to support 2nd BCT's redeployment

18th Transportation Detachment, 45th Special Troops Battalion, 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - The logistics of a deployment or redeployment are a complex and often unrecognized challenge.

Through cooperation between different branches of the service and civilian organizations, units can rely on receiving their equipment in a timely manner – whether they are in theater or in a garrison environment.

Recently, the 18th Transportation Detachment's Movement Control Team, 45th Special Troops Battalion, 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command, conducted port support operations at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in support of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division's redeployment from Operation New Dawn.

With more 500 pieces of equipment used during 2nd BCT's deployment arriving via cargo ship from Kuwait, MCT provided equipment accountability and movement control during this complex unloading operation.

The 18th Trans. Det.'s MCT is the only one of its kind on the island of Oahu; it's responsible for in-transit visibility of personnel and equipment to support both peacetime and

combat operations. In support of this mission, the 18th Trans. Det.'s MCT works with air, sea, truck and rail assets to ensure the successful delivery of a variety of pieces of equipment to numerous customers.

"It's good to have a mission that supports a unit who just got back from a long tour downrange," said Pfc. Francisco DeJesus, movement specialist, MCT.

In conjunction with U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Directorate of Logistics and the U.S. Navy, the MCT conducted 24-hour operations, unloading equipment consisting of containers and rolling stock, and ensuring successful transportation of that equipment to respective

After the cargo ship docked, personnel began coordination for trucks, trailers and material-handling equipment to unload all gear from the ship and separate the tools into each respective area to await transport.

Once equipment was unloaded, a continuous cycle of flatbed trucks delivered the equipment from JBPHH to here.

"It's good to work with civilians, as well as other branches of service, to get our mission accomplished," said Spc. David Seward, movement specialist, MCT, about the team effort that was so conducive to the team's success.

While deployed to Afghanistan, in 2010, the MCT primarily worked with land and air assets in transporting equipment, so conducting the port support mission was a new and challenging operation for the MCT. The successful accomplishment of this mission is a testament to the unit's versatility.

"It was a good opportunity for the Soldiers to get on-the-job training," said Sgt. Pablo Reyes, movement noncommissioned officer, MCT, "and it's a great preparation for the kind of mission we might get downrange."

65th Eng. Bn. expands geospatial arena, creates more mission-enabling products

2ND LT. KYLE SUCHOMSKI 65th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Brigade,

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Big changes have been underway in the geospatial arena.

The 70th Geospatial Company, 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, creates a wide assortment of terrain products, like digital maps and aerial imagery, but the unit has the capability of producing detailed analyses of soil, elevation, weather and hydrology data, too.

The company's 105 geospatial engineers are trained to integrate this data into terrain products that provide a commander with a much more comprehensive analysis of a physical lo-

"The terrain products we create can be integral in the military decision-making process," said Sgt. 1st Class Lester Schermerhorn, 70th Geospatial Co.

Much of the company's aerial imagery comes from the National Geospatial Agency, or NGA.

"We create many products that are relevant and useful for our deployed forces," said Spc. Christopher Lloyd, 70th Geospatial Co., "and these products have to be accurate."

"Sometimes, we need to get imagery or data quickly," said Spc. Stephanie Knight, 70th Geospatial Co. "To do so, we have to be able to rely on a variety of intelligence resources."

Since he first started as a geospatial engineer in 2006, Schermerhorn has seen significant advances in the quality and amount of aerial imagery available for terrain missions.

These intelligence-focused terrain products allow decision makers to better understand the situation on the battlefield.

"It's easier to see a map with visual locations of (improvised explosive devices), than to read a list of grid locations," Lloyd said.

"My Soldiers are in a very technical (military occupation specialty) - that's for sure," said 1st Sgt. Todd Jackson, senior enlisted leader, 70th Geospatial Co., "but most importantly, they're warriors first. During the past 24 months, we've redeployed two platoons from Iraq and then, sent two more over in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Despite these recent deployments, the company has managed to grow and train a fair number of junior-enlisted geospatial engineers into highly-skilled noncommissioned officers.

Perhaps even more astonishing is that this month, the 70th Geospatial Co. has sent more Soldiers to the Sapper Leaders Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., than any other company in the 130th Eng. Bde.

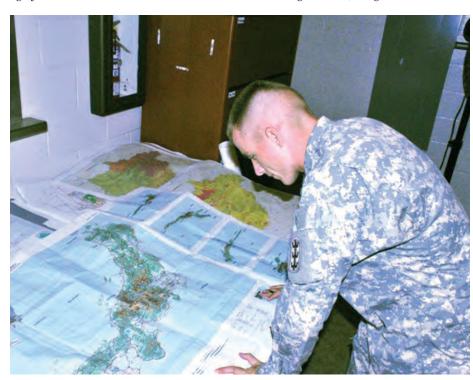
"I push my Soldiers to their limits," Jackson said, "but they always produce."

The unit is prepared for operations in locations across the Pacific theater, as well. "We recently sent two Soldiers over to Japan

to support the earthquake and tsunami relief efforts," Jackson said. Sgt. Jonathan Hughes and Spc. Joseph

Carnes, both with 70th Geospatial Co., were two of the Soldiers that assisted in the relief, called Operation Tomodachi.

"We work with every branch (of service) and a wide range of units," Hughes said.



Sgt. Jonathan Hughes, 70th Geospatial Co., 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, points to the area that was most affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Hughes was one of the two Soldiers who supported the international, humanitarian effort Operation Tomodachi.

Engineers return to basics, dig into FTX for base defense

Exercise brings strength to malnourished warrior tasks

> CAPT. CHRISTOPHER REN 84th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Bde.,

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - Digging defensive fighting positions and holding back a conventional enemy force is not something the 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Bde, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, usually experiences at its construction project sites.

However, that was the battalion's mission during its latest field training exercise, or FTX, here, Aug. 2-11, where it trained its companies on base defense tasks under general war conditions.

During the last few months, the battalion focused on its role in supporting high-intensity conflicts and full-spectrum operations, which encompass offensive, defensive and stability operations in areas of persistent conflict.

Each company was charged with conducting a tactical road march and establishing a defense, while fighting off consistent attacks by a determined enemy.

"This (FTX) is the crawl phase of our 'return to the basics' training theme," explained Capt. Orlando Craig, commander, 643rd Eng. Company, 84th Eng. Bn. "It has provided an excellent venue to exercise basic field, craft and defensive warrior tasks that have atrophied while the majority of units have conducted counterinsurgency operations in either Iraq or Afghanistan. It has given us a great base from which we can build and improve upon."

During the exercise, Soldiers of all five of the battalion's subordinate companies constructed individual fighting positions and entry control points, and emplaced chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear, or CBRN, protective

Observer/trainers from the 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., supported the companies and provided objective and candid feedback during every phase of the exercise.

The opposing forces, consisting of additional 84th Eng. Bn. Soldiers, conducted probing reconnaissance and CBRN attacks while the companies were establishing their defenses.

As the attacks escalated, the companies fought back fiercely and continued to improve their positions.

The culminating event was a full attack and perimeter breach of the companies' defenses, which provided a dramatic and exciting finale

'The battalion has a robust construction schedule, with projects in Hawaii (and) throughout the Pacific, where we practice and improve



Above — A Soldier with the 643rd Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, maintains his fighting position during the battalion's company-defense FTX, Aug. 9

Right — Soldiers in 523rd Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, maintain their fighting positions in preparation for a simulated enemy attack during the battalion's company-defense FTX, Aug. 10.

our technical skills," said Maj. Estee Pinchasin, operations officer, 84th Eng. Bn. "Therefore, it is critical for us to integrate tactical tasks into our training to ensure our overall deployment

Meanwhile, the battalion staff was also participating in the 130th Eng. Bde.'s Command Post Staff Integration Training, or CPSIT, exercise.

The battalion deployed its tactical command post to control the field portion of the training, while the rest of the battalion staff practiced its planning

and operations processes in a scenariobased multi-echelon training exercise.

The CPSIT was also used as a building block to help prepare the battalion to support a full-spectrum exercise at the end of October, which prepares the battalion for contingency operations on the Korean peninsula.





Soldiers in Co. A, 209th ASB, 25th CAB, 25th ID, refuel a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter and communicate with each other during the brigade's FARP CTE on Wheeler Army Airfield, Aug. 14.

209th ASB gains critical FARP experience during CTE

SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER

25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD - Soldiers from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, recently conducted a wide variety of missions, here, as part of the brigade's culminating training event, or CTE.

One of the lesser know training events taking place during the current CTE was the forward aircraft refueling point, or

Soldiers from Company A, 209th Avn. Support Battalion, "Lobos," 25th CAB, began conducting FARP operations, here, in support of the 25th CAB's aviation operations.

"The way the FARP is set up and executed, here, is very similar to what we will be doing in future missions," said Sgt. Akera Wilkerson, daytime shift leader, Co. A. "This training allows us to safely train our Soldiers to standard – before heading into a more stressful environment."

Soldiers must execute a wide array of tasks at the FARP to

include establishing the FARP, using proper hand arm signals, executing battle drills during equipment malfunctions and practicing many other standard procedures for each posi-

"At the two-point FARP we are currently using, we require a minimum of seven Soldiers to operate it proficiently," said Wilkerson. "We have one noncommissioned officer in charge, a Soldier to monitor radio transmissions, a Soldier to operate the (Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck) and two Soldiers to service each helicopter pad.

Soldiers working on the 25th CAB FARP became familiar with the equipment and the dynamic nature of a FARP operation.

"The operational tempo of this training allows us to become familiar with the pace of real-time missions, without encountering hostile action," said Pfc. Mitchell Livingston, petroleum supply specialist, Co. A. "This training is giving us a chance to build unit cohesion, learn proper FARP operating procedures and use appropriate hand and arm signals during FARP operations."



Christopher Brown, NCOIC, MMT, HHB, 25th ID, cuts the base for a new tarot leaf project in the MMT shop at Camp Liberty, Iraq, recently.

25th ID's MMT develops artistic capabilities

Soldiers use craftiness, discarded supplies to create unit-specific wooden art

> Story and Photo by SPC. BREEANNA DUBUKE 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

BAGHDAD - Changing light bulbs, repairing floors and other routine maintenance are things a military maintenance team, or MMT, is used to.

An MMT ensures that all facilities are mission ready in its assigned unit; the unit must fix maintenance problems at a moment's notice.

"We're just trying to make everything happen at the drop of a hat," said Sgt. Christopher Brown, noncommissioned officer in charge of the MMT, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Infantry Division.

For Brown and two other Soldiers with the 25th ID, their craftiness has led them to complete other projects outside their usual occupation.

For the past few months, the 25th ID's MMT has been challenging itself to create wood artwork for the unit. The projects started with 25th ID's symbol, the tarot leaf, Brown said, adding, "This is nowhere near our job description."

"We are just trying to give back to the unit we are in," said Sgt. John Lockwood, MMT. Overall, the team has made more than 40 varied tarot leaf pro-

jects that have been scattered throughout the unit grounds at Camp Liberty, here.

Since the first project, the team's work has become more intri-

cate and detailed, allowing it to make various plaques for command sergeants major and general officers.

"They can do so with much more detail now," said Capt. Julie Leggett, chief of protocol, 25th ID.

However, the team didn't start off with the knowledge it has now. For one member of the team, the experience was his first producing these types of projects.

'When I first got here, I didn't know anything," said Spc. Travis Jones, a member of the New York Army National Guard's 442nd Military Police Company, who is attached to the 25th ID's MMT. "I've never done anything like this in my life." Although Brown and Lockwood had experience working with

some of the tools required for their projects, the creative assignments challenged them to learn new techniques and adapt to their circum-

'We're still learning and making it up as we go," Lockwood said. Their usual duties in the MMT allowed the three Soldiers to take advantage of discarded supplies to help them practice and expand their skills. "Since (the unit) is reutilizing a lot of things, we've just been able

to be in the right place at the right time (to obtain the supplies)," Lockwood said. "We are lucky that our schedule is flexible enough to be able to work on these projects."

Even with the new task of creating projects outside their usual occupation, the Soldiers said they appreciate the fact that they will go home with new skills. "I now have the confidence to do things I would have normal-

ly paid someone to do back home," Jones said.

ACT: Changes include reduced ticket prices

CONTINUED FROM A-1

theater. The move will allow admission ticket costs to be reduced as well, said Ron Locklar, chief, Community Recreation Division; Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.

ACT is trying to increase military participation.

"The move to Schofield will make (ACT) smaller and more accessible, since a larger number of Soldiers work and reside on Schofield," Locklar said.

The smaller productions will take much of the competitive edge out of the program.

"We are still inviting members of the community to come and augment our forces," said Harwood. "The community participation makes the productions possible, especially while our forces are still heavily deployed."

Both Locklar and Harwood agree that the transition will more deeply impact the people participating in ACT rather than audience members. Locklar said the benefits of being a part of the theater community are extensive, including developing skills and a sense of belonging to the community, as well as "That's really why Army theater is there," Locklar said,

"to reach out and help people develop skills and give them an opportunity to participate. Friendships are formed, and it turns into a kind of support group." The program will stick to four productions a year, but in ad-

dition, Harwood will be working with DFWMR's Child, Youth and School Services to put on workshops and programs where Soldiers' children can more actively participate in the theater.

Harwood said the refocusing concept is exciting because ACT is ultimately here to serve Soldiers.

"It's neat to be able to take a program - which in its day had great success and was nationally recognized – and be able to take that and rework it and retool it to the specific needs of our Soldier community right now," Harwood said. The first production of fiscal year 2012 will be "The Rocky

Horror Show," which is a cult-classic, rock 'n' roll musical, in which the audience is encouraged to participate. The production is geared toward an adult audience; therefore, no one under the age of 18 will be granted admission.

'Rocky Horror Show' offers the audience something different," Harwood said. "It is very different from the traditional, old-fashioned, big musical productions the theater is used to putting on."

Army Community Theatre

Catch "The Rocky Horror Show" at the Tropics Recreation Center. Seven performances are scheduled, Oct. 14-31. For more information, call 655-5698.

News **Briefs**

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

29 / Monday "Flying V" Ceremony –

Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, will host a "Flying V" ceremony to honor and welcome Brig. Gen. William Beard, deputy commanding general, USARPAC Reserves, 11 a.m., Aug. 29, on historic Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. Beard will be promoted to major general prior to the ceremony. The Flying V ceremony traditionally welcomes or honors senior Army officials when they assume duties or depart from an Army command, and it refers to the way the colors are posted during the ceremony, which is

V-shaped.

Blood Drive – Tripler Army Medical Center's Armed Services Blood Program will hold blood drives at the following dates, times and locations:

•Aug. 29, 6:30-9:30 a.m., Army ROTC building, University of Hawaii, 1311 Lower Campus Rd., Honolulu. •Aug. 30, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.,

Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.

•Aug. 31, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Ka-

neohe Bay Chapel. Call 433-6699/6148 or visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil or www.facebook.com/militaryblood.

30 / Tuesday

FBI Recruitment – Learn about the FBI by attending a career presentation, 10 a.m., Aug. 30, at the Directorate of Human Resources, Soldier Support Center, Building 750, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-1028.

31 / Wednesday Facebook Town Hall - Have questions about U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii? Got an idea about how to make the USAG-HI community better? Get your questions ready for the first-ever online Facebook town hall, hosted by USAG-HI, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Aug. 31, at www.facebook.com/ usaghawaii.

On that date, all U.S. Army Hawaii Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians can ask questions and get live responses. If your question does not pertain to the public at large, email AskTheCommande r.usaghi@us.army.mil.

September 1 / Thursday

Signal Ball – RSVP online by Sept. 1 at https://einvitations.a fit.edu/2011SignalBallHI for the 2011 Signal Ball Hawaii, 5 p.m., Sept. 16, Tapa Ballroom, Hilton Hawaiian Village, in Waikiki. For tickets, call 438-2329 or email rodney.kelley@us.army.mil.

Deployment Club – Deadline to register is Sept. 1 for workshops sponsored by Families Overcoming Under Stress, or FO-CUS. Keiki, ages 5-12, whose parent is either deployed or about to deploy, can attend this fourpart workshop, 1:30-5 p.m.; Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29; Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks. Call 257-7774 or email hawaii@focusproject.org or tanisha.brown2@us.army.mil.

5 / Monday Commissary Holiday **Hours** – The Schofield Barracks Commissary will be open,

10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sept. 5, for Labor Day. Call 655-5066.

Ongoing

Law School – Interested active duty second lieutenants through captains can apply to law school at the government's expense, if funding permits, under the Army's Funded Legal Education Program. Selected officers will attend law school beginning the fall of 2012 and will remain on active duty while attending law school. Visit www.hrc.army.mil for branchspecific information. Review Chapter 14, Army Regulation 27-1, "The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program," to determine eligibility.

Antiterrorism Awareness

August is Antiterrorism Awareness Month. Reference materials and awareness products are posted at Army Knowledge Online at www.us.army.mil/ suite/page/605757.

•Recognize and report suspicious activity and high-risk be-

•Know active shooter response procedures. •Apply antiterrorism doctri-

nal principles.

•Integrate antiterrorism into your operations process.

Single Soldier Survey – Choose the types of programs and activities you want by filling

out the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation survey. Based on your location, go to one of these sites:

North

https://www.surveymonkey.c om/s/North-Single-Soldiers.

South

https://www.surveymonkey.c om/s/South-Single-Soldiers.

Decal: Visitor pass no longer needed

CONTINUED FROM A-1

"My intent is to implement access control procedures, making it easier for survivors to enter Army garrisons," said Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander, Installation Management Command. "I want all security personnel manning our entrance gates to recognize these very special Army families and welcome them with special respect for their sacrifice and service."

Garrison SOS support coordinators will work directly with survivors to assist them in the application process, which includes registering with the installation's vehicle registration system.

"An application needs to be filled out, and a background check will be conducted on the individual requesting the survivor decal," said Juan Sponberg, Installation Access officer, Directorate of Emergency Services, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.

Sponberg said individuals can either have

a survivor decal or a military (DD Form 2220) vehicle pass, not both.

"The survivor decal may or may not be honored by other ... (service) installations, because it is an Army-issued pass," Sponberg said. "The Army will honor it, but other branches are not required to accept it."

Current DOD physical access control policy requires everyone seeking entrance to a military installation to stop at an entrance gate and present government-issued photo identification. Acceptable forms of identification include a state-issued driver's license or state identification card.

Survivors must still follow that policy, but once they have a decal, they will no longer be required to apply for a visitor's pass each time they enter an installation.

The decal is only valid at U.S. Army-Hawaii installations

(Editor's Note: Vanessa Lynch, news editor, and William Bradner, IMCOM, contributed to the content of this article.)

SAMC: Uniform donations cut costs

CONTINUED FROM A-1

For some Hawaii families, uniforms just aren't in the budget, so SAMC and Hawaii Multiple Schools JROTC work together to provide children with the tools needed to be successful in a JROTC program.

"These uniforms really help to support the children that can't afford to buy uniforms; these will allow them to compete with other children in other high schools," said Staff Sgt. Celeste Imel, 524th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 45th Sust. Bde., 8th Theater Sust. Command, and U.S. Army-Hawaii SAMC president, who headed the organization during the collection.

This is the second year SAMC has hosted the drive. This year, Soldiers increased the number of donations by 184, making this year's total 569.

"That's what this club is all about, giving back."

- Sgt. Maj. Jeff Fairley 500th MI Bde.

The 569 donated Class As aren't just for show. The uniforms come from a place of pride, are pieces of history and were worn by heroes.

"A lot of these uniforms come from combat veterans. These uniforms that are going out (to the students) come from all walks of life," said Sgt. Anthony McCaskill, 536th Support Maintenance Company, 45th Sust. Bde. "There is a lot of history in these uniforms, and (they) will now be worn by our future leaders and Soldiers of America."

The SAMC is an organization that takes pride in being able to give back to its local

communities.

"Everything you do in the community makes a difference," Fairley said. "That's what this club is all about, giving something back to the community."

The Class A drive is just a small part of the relationship between USARHAW's-SAMC and Hawaii Multiple Schools JROTC.

"We have a very close relationship with the JROTC, and we will continue to support them as we grow as a club," Imel said.



Patches stack up in a pile of Class A jackets being donated to Hawaii Multiple Schools JROTC, Aug. 15. Members and future members of SAMC came together to collect and pack all 569 uniform items, before they were given to students.



Soldiers from the 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC, compete in a tug-of-war contest during the brigade's

45th Sust. Bde.'s organizational day inspires a spirit of competition

Story and Photo by

SGT. CHRIS HUDDLESTON

45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs,

8th Theater Sust. Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Busy schedules were set aside to conduct an organization day, here, recently.

Soldiers from the 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command, and its subordinate units, participated in the organization day to boost morale and improve unit cohesion.

"Organizational days are a great way to revitalize and rejuvenate yourself and family, to better serve the unit as an individual and as a leader," said 1st Lt. Stephiney Xie, executive officer, 45th Sust. Bde.

The event kicked off with a brigade esprit de corps run, families and pets included.

Col. Jeffrey Drushal, commander, 45th Sust. Bde., gave a rousing speech, highlighting the importance of unit cohesion and the spirit of competition, following the run.

Soldiers competed in numerous events throughout the day, including flag football, softball, volleyball, soccer and relay races. These events promoted Drushal's vision of spirited

competition and brought Soldiers closer together as a team.

"I think all the Soldiers and the families enjoyed themselves," Xie said. "It was a great event that bonded us together, not just as a team, but as a family."

The brigade's award-winning K quad dining facility hosted a cookout during a lunchtime break in competition. The food was a highlight of the day for many Soldiers.

"The best part of the day was when it was time to eat," said Sgt. Gerald Sydnor, mailroom non-commissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 45th Special Troops Battalion, 45th Sust. Bde. "The food was well prepared, and it was good."

After lunch, competition resumed with the addition of dodge ball and tug of war.

Soldiers from the 303rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Co. attempted to use their remote operating neutralizing system robot, Andros, as a team member during the tug-of-war contest. The 800-pound, explosive device removal robot — though part of the 45th Sust. Bde. family — was determined ineligible, due to the damage its treads would cause to the field.

HAWAI'I ARMY WEEKLY MPAU HANA

www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com

"When work is finished."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2011



Fifteen competitors were narrowed down to the top six finalists during the 2011 Operation Rising Star singing contest. The top six performed at the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks, Aug. 19, and Pvt. Kristopher Gonzalez (far right), HHT, 2nd Bn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, sang his way to victory. Rounding out the top six, from left to right, were Brenda Kent, family member; Staff Sgt. Jeremy Stewart, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, USAG-HI; Sula Blevins, family member; Pfc. Thomas Arachtingi, Co. C, 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.; and Olivia Perez-Breland, family member.



Top singing talent shares spotlight for one evening at Tropics Recreation Center

Story and Photos by STEPHANIE BRYANT

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - Pvt. Kristopher Gonzalez, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Battalion, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division, took first place in the Operation Rising Star finals, at the Tropics Recreation Center, here, Aug. 19.

Operation Rising Star, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is a Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program that is organized like the "American Idol" contest.

The local competition started with 15 contestants, Aug. 5, and Gonzalez sang his way to first place.

Gonzalez, one of six competitors at the finals, won the first-place prize of \$500 and a \$100 Exchange gift card, as well as a chance to move on and compete at the 2011 Army finals.

Gonzalez is no stranger to performing and first place, as he also took first place in the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers' "Star Search" talent contest back in May.

For the Operation Rising Star finals, Gonzalez performed a medley of 50s music and described winning as being "cav-tastic." But he was even more proud of the support he received from his unit; the HHT provided the most audience members throughout the whole competition and gave the loudest applause level. For its support, HHT received the Spirit Award and a check for \$300.

"It's an awesome feeling to win," Gonzalez said. "The support (from my unit) is great, and they are all like family."

Compared to last year, this year's competitors relied on their musical talent as well as their singing abilities. Four of the final six contestants played their own instruments as they sang their last song of the competition. For Gonzalez, who played the guitar, his talent proved a huge success.

The contest was not just fun and exciting for the contestants, but for the judges as well.

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson, senior enlisted leader, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, looked forward to judging the competition. He said he looks for the contestant who distinguishes him

or herself and does something outstanding. This is my fourth year judging Operation Rising Star," Williamson said. "I enjoy seeing all the raw talent."

Brett Harwood, managing/artistic director, Army Community Theatre, Fort Shafter, and Kelly Poll, an active member of the theater and music crowd, were also judges.

Olivia Perez-Breland, a family member with Headquarters and Headquarters Bn., 25th ID, took second place and was awarded a \$250 check and a \$75 Exchange gift card, while third place was awarded to Pfc. Thomas Arachtingi, Company C, 205th Military Intelligence Bn., 500th MI Bde., who received a check for \$100 and a \$50 Exchange gift card.

Audience members watch a performance from Operation Rising Star contestants, at the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks, Aug. 19. The program is designed to mimic "American Idol."

See more photos of this event at www.flickr.com/usaghawaii.



Today

All Army Sports – Deadline to apply for All Army rugby or soccer is Aug. 26. Soldiers can either fill out the Army Form 4762, "Athlete's Application," at their unit orderly room or at the Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Office, Kaala Community Activity Center, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-9914.

27 / Saturday Karate Do Shudokan Classes –

Classes are 1-2:45 p.m., every Thursday and Saturday at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center. Cost is \$35 per month; discounts are available for two or more family members. Classes are perfect for parents and keiki. Call 488-6372 or 265-5476.

Movies by Moonlight - Watch "Star Trek" under the stars, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 27, Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks. Bring blankets and lawn chairs. Call 655-0111/2/5.

28 / Sunday

Adventure Surfing – Learn to surf with Outdoor Recreation, 6:30-11 a.m., Aug. 28. Equipment and roundtrip transportation from Schofield Barracks are available. Cost is \$48. To register, call 655-0143.

31 / Wednesday

Medieval Fair – This event is 3-4:30 p.m., Aug. 31, Fort Shafter Library, with free games and crafts for keiki of all ages. Call 438-9521.

ACS and CYSS Survey - Deadline is Aug. 31 to complete the survey for select ACS and CYSS programs and services. Visit www.HiMWR.com and click the ACS/CYSS program survey banner. The first survey asks you to list the 10 most valuable ACS/CYSS programs for Soldiers and family members. The second survey asks to check off the least 10 valuable ACS/CYSS programs for Soldiers and family members. Call 655-0620 or email amanda.k.koren@

September 1 / Thursday

Learn to Swim – Registration is Sept. 1-6; HMR swimming lessons are Sept. 7-17. Visit himwr.com for registration hours. Registration is on a firstcome, first-served basis. Keiki must be registered with CYSS; card must be shown to register for classes.

Theater Thursdays – Teens ages 12 and up and adults can learn the basics of stage acting, 4-5:30 p.m., Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-8002 to register; walk-ins are also welcome.

Beginner's Ukulele Workshop

Registration is underway for this workshop, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; Aliamanu Community Center, AMR. Ukuleles will be available, but you can bring your own if you'd like. The Native Hawaiian Liaison. USAG-HI, hosts this workshop. Reserve



Vickey Mouzé I U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Hui O Na Wahine, Schofield Barracks' all-ranks spouses club, held its annual "Super Sign Up" at the Nehelani community center, here, Aug. 17. In addition to sign-up tables, local vendors displayed their handiwork and wares. To find out more about the Hui O Na Wahine, email huionawahine@gmail.com or visit www.schofieldspousesclub.com. Hui O Na Wahine means "Club of the Women" in the Hawaiian language.

Hui all-ranks spouses club holds Super Sign Up

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - The Hui O Na Wahine allranks Army spouses club held its annual Super Sign Up membership drive at the Nehelani, here, Aug. 17.

During the aloha-themed open house, 175 new mem-

New members can attend monthly luncheons and volunteer at the Hui Thrift Store, which supports activities, clubs, welfare and scholarships. A year's dues for members of the Hui O Na Wahine spouses club are just \$25 for August-Mav. Besides featuring local vendors and opportunities to

meet current members, the Super Sign Up included community information displays. Tabletop signage recognized that the organization has received Hui welfare funds for 2011. One such beneficiary is the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. As in past years, the Hui helped fund weekly entertain-

ment at the library's Summer Reading Program, said Bonnie Dong, supervisory librarian, Sgt. Yano Library. "This year, the Hui also provided \$1,000 to purchase

children DVDs for the library," Dong said.

For more information about the Hui, visit www.schofieldspousesclub.com or email huionawahine@gmail.com. The Hui also has a Facebook group page with event information.

your seat at nhliaison@gmail.com or 655-9694.

FMWR Outprocessing – Starting Sept. 1, 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 still clear at the Outdoor Recreation Center located at Building 556, Heard Avenue, Schofield Barracks; call 655-0143.

All Army Bowling - Men and women can register for All Army Bowling now through Sept. 26. Soldiers may apply via AKO on https://armysports.cf sc.army.mil. Call 655-0856.

2 / Friday

Snorkeling – Snorkle with Outdoor Recreation, 6-11:30 a.m., Sept. 2. Equipment and round-trip transportation from Schofield Barracks are available. Cost is \$25. To register, 655-0143.

Family Fun Friday – Enjoy free pizza and activities at Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks, 6 p.m., Sept. 2 and 16. Call 655-5698.

3 / Saturday

Fine Arts for Teens – Teens 12 and older can learn the basics of oil painting; 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Sept. 3, 10, 17 and 24; Arts and Crafts Center; Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$45 and includes all supplies. To register, call 655-4202.

Free Ladies Golf Clinic - Leilehua Golf Course (located just out the gate from WAAF) holds a free ladies golf clinic, 1:30-3 p.m., every first Saturday of the month. Call 655-4653.

5 / Monday

Free Hula Classes – The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, welcomes all Soldiers and families to participate in free hula classes. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com. Classes are held the following days and locations:

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

6 / Tuesday

Open Stage - Show off your talent, 6 p.m., the first and third Tuesday of each month, at the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks. Call

9 / Friday

Free Marriage Workshop

"How To Improve Your Marriage Without Talking About It" is a workshop for all Soldiers and family members and teaches how men and women communicate. Couples don't need to attend together. RSVP to virginia.c.wescott.ctr@ us.army.mil or call 438-3344. Dates and

noon-9 p.m., Aug. 27-28, McCoy Pavil-

lion, Ala Moana Park, Honolulu. Thou-

sands attend this annual fest, which

features a Greek deli, pastries and mu-

sic. Visit www.greekfestivalhawaii.com.

28 / Sunday

is 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 28, at the Halei-

wa Farmers Market. Cut flowers, or-

chids and tropical plants will be avail-

31 / Wednesday

walkers can join the free Hawaii Run-

ning Project's Wednesday Run Club at

Schofield Barracks, which meets

Wednesdays, 5 p.m., Bowman Field, at

the end of Lyman Road. The club runs

loops around the base of Kolekole Pass;

workouts can be customized from two

to eight miles. Email mary.siegel@

Facebook Town Hall - Have

questions about USAG-HI? Got an idea

amedd.army.mil or call 655-9123.

about how to make the USAG-

HI community better? Get

your questions ready now

for the first-ever online

Facebook town hall,

hosted by USAG-HI,

6:30-7:30 p.m., Aug. 31,

Running Club - Runners and

able for purchase. Call 388-9696.

Tropical Flower Fest – This event

times follow; both classes are at the ACS, Schofield Barracks:

- •Sept. 9, 9-10:30 a.m.
- •Sept. 21, 1-2:30 p.m.

12 / Monday Martinez PFC Closures - Por-

tions of the Martinez Physical Fitness Center will be closed at various times now through October to move exercise equipment and to paint. Call 836-0338. Locations and dates follow:

- ·Air-conditioned cardio equipment room, Sept. 12-14.
- •High ceiling cardio equipment room,
- Oct. 3-19. •Nautilus equipment room, Oct. 4-17.

13 / Tuesday

Survivor Support Group - This group meets 5:30-8 p.m., the second Tuesday of each month, at the Survivor Outreach Services Center, Fort Shafter Aloha Center, Building 330, Room 111. Call 438-9285.

20 / Tuesday Free Cybersafety Workshop

"Keeping Safe in Cyberspace for Parents," 5:30-7 p.m., Sept. 20, ACS, Fort Shafter, is a workshop for all Soldiers and adult family members. The workshop covers cyberbullying, sexting, online predators and social networking. This workshop is recommended for parents who have keiki ages 5 and older. No keiki may attend. RSVP to virginia.c.wescott.ctr@us.army.mil or call 438-3344.

usaghawaii. On that date, all U.S. Army Hawaii Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians can ask questions and get live responses. If your question does not pertain to the public at large, email AskTheCommander.usaghi@ us.armv.mil.

September

2 / Friday

Pearl Harbor – RSVP by Aug. 26 at www.USSMissouri.org for the Battleship Missouri Memorial commemoration of the 66th anniversary of the end of World War II, 8-9 a.m., Sept. 2, on the Mighty Mo's forward main deck, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Navy Rear Adm. Robert Girrier, commander, Carrier Strike Group Seven, USS Ronald Reagan Strike Group, will offer remarks. The program will feature patriotic music, a rifle salute and taps. Guests can tour the ship's decks afterward. The Missouri's ceremony is free, but reservations are encouraged, as space is limited.

3 / Saturday Ala Moana Farmers' Market - The grand opening

SEE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, B-4

Sun., Aug. 28, 2 p.m. Wed., Aug. 31, 7 p.m.

Deathly Hollows: Part 2

(PG-13)

Sat., Aug. 27, 7 p.m.

Moon

(PG-13)

community Kalendar

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

Today Wounded Warrior Charity Hock-

ey Game – Tickets are still available for this charity game pitting Army/Air Force against Navy/Marine/Coast Guard, Aug. 28; doors open at 6 p.m. at the Ice Palace, Honolulu. Proceeds will benefit wounded warriors. Among the scheduled festivities is a ceremonial puck drop at center ice by Gen. Gary North, commander, U.S. Pacific Air Forces; Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific; Lt. Gen. Duane Thiessen, commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces-Pacific; and Rear Adm. Charles Ray, commander, Fourteenth Coast Guard District. To purchase tickets, visit www.warriors4warriors.org, email puckmann212002@yahoo.com or call (949) 870-7277. Warriors for Warriors, a nonprofit organization, is hosting the game as part of its "Wounded Warriors in Paradise" charity weekend.

Duke's OceanFest - Celebrate the birthday of Hawaii's "Father of Surfing," Duke Kohanamoku, in true Waikiki beachboy style, now through Aug. 28, Duke Kohanamoku Beach, Honolulu. Participate or watch a host of ocean sports, including longboard surfing, surf polo, swimming, standup paddling and paddleboards. Visit www.dukefoundation.org or call 545-4880.

27 / Saturday

At the Exchange – The Schofield Exchange is hosting the following special events:

- •Chili Cook-off: Set up your homemade entry at the Exchange, 1 p.m., Aug. 27; judging begins at 2 p.m. Entries are still needed; sign up at the Schofield Exchange Customer Service Center. Prizes are a \$200 or \$50 Exchange gift card.
- •\$100 essay contest: Keiki 6-17 years of age can write an essay of 200 words or less on either "Why I Cannot Wait to Go Back to School," or "Why I Deserve Another Month Off." Drop off essays at the Schofield Exchange Customer Service Center by Aug. 27; the winner will be notified Sept. 1.

Greek Festival – This event is

EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program

www.facebook.com/

Recreation

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

Command 25th ID: 25th Infantry Division ACS: Army Community Service AFAP: Army Family Action Plan

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment

Calendar abbreviations

AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation BCT: Brigade Combat Team BSB: Brigade Support Battalion Co.: Company CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services HMR: Helemano Military Reservation

AFTB: Army Family Team Building

FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

FRG: family readiness group

mation can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on "Religious Support Office" under the "Directorates and Support Staff" menu). Aliamanu Chapel

Aloha Jewish Chapel,

Fort DeRussy Chapel Helemano Chapel Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks

Additional religious services, children's programs, educational services and contact infor-

Pearl Harbor 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 **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 •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.

his Week at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Memorial Theater Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aafes.com under reeltime movie listing.

Zookeeper

(PG)

Fri., Aug. 26, 6 p.m. Sat., Aug. 27, 4 p.m.

Horrible Bosses

Fri., Aug. 26, 8:30 p.m.



Transformers: Dark of the

Thurs., Sept. 1, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

65th Engineers help Boy Scouts earn first aid merit badge

Story and Photos by 2ND LT. KYLE SUCHOMSKI 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - Without question, first aid skills can make all the difference in an emergency situation, and Soldiers are trained to handle a wide range of potentially life-threatening emergencies, in both combat and garrison situations.

Soldiers in the 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, took the opportunity to take their knowledge of first aid and share it with the commu-

The Soldiers volunteered to help Mililani Boy Scout Troop 664 earn its first aid merit badge and learn vital emergency response skills, Aug. 13.

"Scouts can always use first aid, whether on themselves or on a buddy," said Russ Sekiya, assistant scoutmaster, Troop 664.

At the recent training event, 19 Soldiers from the battalion's Headquarters and Headquarters, Forward Support and 70th Geospatial companies volunteered to serve as subject matter experts in an array of first aid topics.

Topics included airway management, fractures, triage and buddy carries, among others. Each of the topics covered was required for the Boy Scouts' first aid merit badges.



Boy Scouts from Troop 664, Mililani, practice buddy carries at a recent training event. The Scouts teamed up with Soldiers from the 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, to earn their first aid

master from Mililani, has a son in Troop 664 and was glad to see the Soldiers working with the children.

"I am very grateful that (these Soldiers) are here," Lyons said. "I appreciate that these guys can come out on a Saturday afternoon, when they would oth-Joseph Lyons, an assistant scout- erwise be spending time with family,

and help our boys and the community."

Volunteers from the 65th Eng. Bn. shared their knowledge of first aid with about 25 boys between the ages of 11 and 16.

The Scouts were eager to learn and provided the Soldiers with a receptive

Spc. Charles Williams, 70th Geospatial Co., said the Scouts "were really intelligent. I feel that they would know what to do in an emergency situation."

Skylar Agena, 16, a senior Scout, said he "enjoyed creating a relationship with the Soldiers and gaining knowledge from their experience.'

One of the Soldiers at the event, 2nd Lt. Steve Stark, showed Scouts how to use an automated external defibrillator,

"After a single demonstration, (the Scouts) were able to pick up the machine and run through each of the necessary steps," Stark said. "I was impressed by their willingness to get hands on with the equipment and training dummies."

Pfc. Mark Corcoran, HHC, taught the Scouts CPR and was equally impressed by their receptiveness.

The volunteer event wrapped up with a lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers, provided by the Boy Scout troop.

During the barbecue, the Scouts voiced their interest in working with 65th Eng. Bn. Soldiers in future train-



2nd Lt. Steve Stark, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, observes as a Boy Scout practices CPR on a training dummy. While the training did not qualify the Scouts as "CPR certified," it did provide the children with potentially lifesaving knowledge that they might otherwise have missed.

Community can help improve USAG-HI through AFAP Conference

September deadline draws near for AFAP issues, delegates

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS - Delegates and issues are still needed for the fiscal year 2012 U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Army Family Action Plan Conference, Oct. 18-20, at Building 647, near the Sgt. Smith Theater, here.

AFAP is an Armywide program that helps improve quality of life is-

Through AFAP, all members of the Army, including active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers; family members; retirees; surviving spouses; and Army civilians have a forum to voice concerns to Army leadership and make recommendations for change.

AFAP remains the pre-eminent means for commanders at all levels to seek solutions to the concerns of their communities.

'As the military and our leaders readjust to the realities we face today, it is increasingly important to voice ourselves, so the leadership will know what is most valued to the Army family,"

> said Heather Miles, AFAP program manager, USAG-HI. "Please take the time to submit your issue to the FY 12 AFAP, and let your voice be heard."

AFAP really does work.

A recommendation was made at the last USAG-HI AFAP conference, held here, Feb. 8-11, to increase security within USAG-HI

housing communities. Based on that recommendation, community police officers were assigned to north and south communities. Also, USAG-HI reinstituted the Neighborhood Watch program. Island Palm Communities residents can contact their respective community center to sign up for the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Another issue brought forward was the lack of a recreation center at Fort Shafter for single Soldiers. A survey has now been created for single Soldiers to let the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation know what types of recreation facilities and programs they want. AFAP was created in 1980 through focus

groups but was fully developed with the first official AFAP Conference held July 1983.

Its mission is to help Army leaders address the needs and concerns of the total Army family.

USAG-HI AFAP FY 2012

•Submit AFAP issues by Sept. 20 at www.myarmyonesource.com or in person at Army Community Service, Building 2091, Kolekole Avenue, Schofield Barracks, or at the Fort Shafter Aloha Center, Building 330, Montgomery Avenue.

•To become an AFAP delegate, call 655-0705 before Sept. 20. Delegates from all ranks are being recruited. Delegates are Soldiers, family members, retirees, survivors and Army

•The opening ceremony starts at 8:30 a.m., Oct. 18. The closing ceremony will be held in conjunction with a resigning ceremony of the Army Family Covenant, Oct. 20, at the Tropics Recreation Center, here.

•The Youth Center will select delegates and issues for the Teen AFAP that will be held Oct. 15.

DeCA picks up local grinds to stock from Hawaii food show

STEPHANIE BRYANT U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

WAIKIKI - The smell of Hawaiian coffee and the sound of sizzling meat filled the Mauna Kea Room at Hawaii Prince Hotel, here, during the American Logistics Association's 14th Annual Hawaii Food Show, Aug, 17.

The food show offers the Defense Commissary Agency, or DeCA, buyers the opportunity to not only interact with Hawaii's local business owners, but taste and see the products before selecting what will go on the commissary shelves.

The food show, which at its debut had only a handful of small businesses participating, has grown to show more than 80 small businesses from the islands, not just Oahu, this year.

DeCA, which operates the four commissaries on Oahu, uses this unique event to allow local businesses to get their products in the commissaries without having to travel to the East Coast. Mainland buying is done in Fort Lee, Va., and businesses usually go to DeCA, said Keith Hagenbuch, senior executive service director, DeCA West.

"For (local businesses), traveling to Virginia would be very costly," he said. "We want to see (local) products without inconveniencing the

In addition to the opportunity that the food show presents local businesses, DeCA representatives sit down with each participating local business and provide feedback about the product and business as to why it was or was not picked up.

ceived an ALA membership. Hagenbuch said local commissaries have picked

This year, each participating business also re-

up around 1,800 new products during the last 13 years. That number does not include the 144 line items that were picked up at this year's event.

Some of the new products picked up this year include a new line of coffee, energy micro-shot drinks, multipurpose cleaners and pork rinds.



Susan Campbell, director (left), Schofield Barracks Commissary, meets with vendors at the ALA's 14th Annual Hawaii Food Show, Aug. 17, at the Hawaii Prince Hotel in Waikiki. The show gives local vendors a chance to showcase their products to DeCA.

Seven new companies that have not done business with the commissaries were picked up this year as well. Two of those new companies are outer-island companies not residing on Oahu.

Susan Campbell, director, Schofield Barracks Commissary, enjoys the food show because she likes being a part of the decision-making process.

"We see the item, and we know what our clientele is looking for, and we get to make the decision about which local items make it to our shelves," she said.

Campbell, who has been Schofield's Commissary director for just under 5 years, said the commissaries on Oahu provide a huge savings for their

patrons. In every department, a 49- to 50-percent savings is realized compared to local store prices.

Campbell said to offer these savings is important to service members, while also supporting the local community and businesses.

Representatives from the military exchanges also attended the event.

Bargain shoppers receive deep discounts at NAF warehouse sale

JENNY DUONG Directorate of Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

FORT SHAFTER FLATS - Soldiers and family members started trickling in at 6:30 a.m., here, as they lined up for the first Nonappropriated Fund Warehouse Closeout Sale to buy excess inventory, Aug. 16.

Items included furniture, appliances, playground equipment and electronics.

"The items sold at the closeout were aged and and purchased that item immediately.

obsolete items from all our U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii morale, welfare and recreation programs," said Joy Baker, chief, NAF Logistics. "The profits from the sale go directly to the MWR fund for the next fiscal year; these funds provide programs and services to our Soldiers everyday."

While some shoppers carefully inspected an item before purchase, others saw the opportunity in obtaining a fixer-upper at a great deal

"There is nothing like finding an item that you've wanted, at a bargain price, and that was the expression I saw on a lot of our customers' faces," said Brandon Goo, support assistant, NAF Logistics. "It felt great to know that holding our sale made a lot of people happy.'

Time of entry restrictions allowed military ID cardholders to go in first, followed by Department of Defense civilian ID cardholders and then, the general public. The early hours gave Soldiers and their families a chance to benefit

first from the sale.

"Allowing the military first dibs on the items shows the support that MWR has for (its) military family," said Rebecca Macan, military spouse.

NAF held a sale four years ago and is hoping to make this closeout an annual event.

"Each dollar earned provides additional money to sustain and improve programming for our Soldiers and families," said Baker. "And with limited funding, each dollar is important."

9/11 Commemorative Events

The following local events commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11. They honor more than 3,000 victims of the 9/11 attacks, including 184 killed when American Airlines Flight 77 exploded into the Pentagon, as well as the first responders who rushed to the locations of the attacks.

•Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m., and Sept. 11, 4 p.m. – Mozart's "Requiem," St. Andrew's Cathedral, Beretania and Queen Emma streets, Honolulu, The Oahu Chorale Society will perform this composition. Tickets are \$20 general admission or \$15 for military and students with ID. Tickets may be purchased online at www.OahuChoral.org, by phone at 735-4311 or at the door.

• Sept. 11, 7 a.m. - Travis Manion Foundation 9/11 Heroes Run 5K and 1-mile run/walk, MCBH, K-Bay; open to the public; registration closing date is Sept. 10. Register at www.active.com.

• Sept. 11, 7 a.m. - Stephen Siller Tun-

nel to Towers Run, at Ford Island Bridge at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. This 5K walk/run benefits the Stephen Siller Foundation, USA Cares and TAMC's Fisher House. Register or donate at www.active.com.

•Sept. 11, 9:20 a.m. (time approxi*mate)* – Remembrance Ceremony, Oceanside Entrance, TAMC; event includes remarks by Brig. Gen. Keith Gallagher, commanding general, Pacific Regional Medical Command and

•Sept. 11, 12:15-12:45 a.m. - Remembrance Ceremony, Tamarind Park at Bishop Square on the corner of Bishop and King streets., Honolulu.

•Sept. 11, 4-5:30 p.m. - 6th Annual Mayor's Remembrance Walk; event starts at Sister Derby Park on S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, and ends at the Honolulu Hale and 9/11 memorial. It includes a ceremony at the Honolulu Police Department headquarters. Call 768-6666, visit www1.honolulu.gov/moca or email moca-info@honolulu.gov.

CONTINUED FROM B-2

is 8:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Sept. 3, Ala Moana Center, 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu. Located on the upper deck near Sears, this event will feature more than 50 vendors offering island-fresh produce and other items. Event includes hula and live music.

9th Annual Okinawan Festival – This ninth annual event is 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Sept. 3 (bon dance begins at 5:30 p.m.); and 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sept. 4, at Kapiolani Park, Honolulu. It includes food booths, live entertainment and activities. Park free at Kapiolani Community College and ride roundtrip for \$2 in an air-conditioned bus to Kapiolani Park; the bus runs continuously throughout the festival. Visit www.0kinawanFestival.com.

"Mustangs" FRG - The 325th BSB, "Mustangs," 3rd BCT, "Broncos," 25th ID, have the following events planned.

Email travantha.miller@ us.army.mil.

•Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m., 325th BSB presents "Movie on the Quad," at Quad E, Schofield Barracks. Families can bring picnic baskets and chairs. Activities prior to the movie (4:30-6 p.m.) include decorating pillowcases for single Soldiers, lei-making and a talk by the ACS unit service coordinator.

•Fundraiser car washes at the car wash rack by Burger King, Schofield Barracks. Donations will be used to purchase welcome home packages for single Soldiers. Families are asked to volunteer. Car washes are Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Co. B FRG; and Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., HHC and Co. C FRG.

10 / Friday

Craft Fair – The Leilehua High School Band Booster Association's Third Annual Craft Fair is 9 a.m., Sept. 10, in the cafeteria at Leilehua High School, 1515 California Ave., Wahiawa. Includes live music and entertainment, baked

goods and door prizes. Free ad-

mission and free parking is available. Call 224-4080.

Mid-Autumn Festival -

This Chinese cultural festival is 2:30-6 p.m., Sept. 10, Chinatown Cultural Plaza, 100 N. Beretania St., Honolulu. Includes concert by the Royal Hawaiian Band, hula and a lion dance. Parking is at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza garage; enter through Maunakea Street. Call 536-4621 or email ucshawaii@hawaiiantel.net.

15 / Thursday

Hui O Na Wahine Lun**cheon** – RSVP by Sept. 9 for this luncheon, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Sept. 15, at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks; cost is \$15. For last names beginning with A-L, email huireservationsal@ gmail.com; M-Z, email huireser vationsmz@gmail.com. Spouses

must be 2011-2012 members of the Hui to attend. Attendees can bring items to fill the donation basket for the USO Holiday Gift Drive that supports wounded warriors and their families. Email huionawahine@gmail.com or visit www.schofieldspouses.com.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Yearly flu vaccinations get underway

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU - Flu vaccinations for deploying personnel, active duty or civilian, are currently underway.

Vaccinations for high-risk patients, health care providers with direct patient care, active duty personnel, and mission-essential or mission-critical Department of Defense civilian and contract employees will soon follow.

High-risk individuals include young children; pregnant women; people with chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung disease; and those 65 years of age or older.

Health care workers and those who care for children less than 6 months of age should also be vaccinated.

Influenza is a virus that is spread by coughing, sneezing or nasal secretions. Anyone can get influenza, and trying to avoid people you see sneezing or coughing may not be enough to evade con-

"Flu can cause high fever, pneumonia and make existing medical conditions worse," said Lance Golder, military vaccine analyst, U.S. Pacific Command. "It can also cause diarrhea and seizures in children. And, due to Hawaii's geographical location,

we see influenza cases all year round, not just during your typical flu season.

"The vaccine has already begun to arrive for all services, and we do not expect any shortage this year," Golder added. "While it takes approximately two weeks for the protection from the vaccine to develop, the protection lasts about a year. I can't stress enough that it is safe and effective, especially against infection from influenza virus and its complications."

"All services will once again offer both the intranasal and injectable types of vaccines," said Capt. Joycelyn Constantino, Army Public Health Nursing. "We will have (both FluMist and injectable) available for use. This enables us to cover our entire population and offer the best possible vaccine for each person."

"For those individuals who choose to receive their vaccinations from a Tricare-authorized provider or through one of the network pharmacies that participate in the vaccination program, there is no cost," Golder said. "Tricare is once again offering that option."

Members of the Joint Public Health Vaccination Working Group, which consists of individuals from each service, began meeting several months ago to plan the influenza vaccination schedule for all Tricare-enrolled beneficiaries.

Vaccination schedule **Beneficiary locations**

 Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Immunization

> Monday and Friday, 8-11:45 a.m., 1-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30-11:45 a.m., 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30-11:45 a.m., 1-2 p.m. Closed third Thursday of every month.

•Navy Branch Clinic, Kaneohe Bay Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 7:30-11:30 a.m., 1-3 p.m. Thursday, 7:30-11:30 a.m., 1-2 p.m.

•Navy Headquarters Clinic, Building 1750, JBPHH Monday-Friday,

•Makalapa Clinic, JBPPH Monday-Friday,

7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. First Saturday of each month, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

 Schofield Barracks Health Clinic Monday-Thursday, 7:30-11:30 a.m.

> Friday, 9-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 1-3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 1-2 p.m.

•TAMC Immunization Clinic Tuesday, 1-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, 9-11:30 a.m.

Mass Vaccinations at TAMC's Immunization/ **Allergy Clinic**

•General population Sept. 9, 23 and Oct. 21; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

•TAMC staff/DOD civilians Sept. 16, 30 and Oct. 14, 28; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.



From left to right, Col. J. Anson Smith, chief of staff, PRMC; Tammy Ray, former director, Wheeler/Schofield ASYMCA; Terri Nelson, outreach director, Wheeler/Schofield ASYMCA; Mary Nilges, group practice manager, WOMH; and Stanley Lum, executive director, ASYMCA, Honolulu; untie the lei during the opening ceremony of the keiki waiting room at WOMH, Aug 15.

Keiki room opens at Warrior Ohana Medical Home clinic

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER News Release

KALAELOA – The grand opening for the keiki waiting room at the Warrior Ohana Medical Home, or WOMH, primary care clinic was celebrated as one more way of reaching out to patients and responding to a need, here, Aug. 15.

"Today we celebrated the grand opening of our keiki waiting room, sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA of Honolulu," said Mary Nilges, group practice manager, WOMH. "This is a no-cost service for this service. The YMCA provides the child care providers, the toys and supplies, and all we do is provide the space."

Together, the team turned a space that was being used to store four gurneys into the children's waiting room.

"Our patients have expressed to me many times that this is a service they are accustomed to at both Schofield Barracks Health Clinic and Tripler Army Medical Center," Nilges said. "(Our patients) have told me they would really appreciate it if we could have a waiting room, here, also. From the day that we opened, I have made it a mission of mine to make this happen. I couldn't be more pleased that

we are opening this today. It is a much-needed service." Tammy Ray, former director, Wheeler/Schofield Branch ASYM-

CA, and TAMC, provided safety inspections.

"I have a 7-year-old and understand what it is like to be a military spouse needing care for your child while you see a provider," said Amber Matanane, a day care provider at WOMH and a former

"We really needed it," Matanane said. "It is really nice to be a part of helping people who are deployed and dealing with it, because I know exactly how it feels. (I've) been there."

During the opening ceremony, Col. J. Anson Smith, chief of staff, Pacific Regional Medical Command, spoke about the importance of the new Army medicine concept of a patient-centered

medical home and the keiki role in that concept. "I consider myself fortunate to be a part of Army medicine at a time when the medical home concept initiative took form," Smith

said. "The program is designed to improve primary care access and quality, while bringing Army medicine closer to home for our Army families," Smith said. "The Warrior Ohana Medical Home primary care clinic has done just that.

"Building on that concept, today, we opened this room — a place where children can come, play and be safe, while their parent or siblings are seeing a provider," Smith said.

WOMH is structured after the patient-centered medical home model. Community-based medical homes are Army-run, primary care clinics located off post in the communities where Army families live.

The Army community-based medical home has easy to access, patient-centered, team-based and quality-focused health care.

Each patient has a team of doctors and nurses who work with that patient to promote a spirit of health and wellness.

Warrior Ohana Medical Home

WOMH is a community-based primary care clinic offering comprehensive family medicine, behavioral health, pharmacy and lab services. The clinic is currently accepting enrollment applications from active duty Army family members. Call 433-5401/5402.

•WOMH is located at 91-1010 Shangrila St., Ste. 100, Kalaeloa, southwest of Kapolei High School, at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station.

•The keiki waiting room at WOMH is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. Call 624-5645.

•To learn more about the Army's community-based medical homes, visit www.armymedicine.army.mil/cbmh.