

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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

INSIDE



Stop the presses!

Subscribers will receive the Military Star News, Dec. 23 and 30, when the Hawaii Army Weekly takes its two-week hiatus.

Scholarships

Spouses and keiki can apply.

A-3



Feeding the needy

84th Eng. Bn. collects thousands of pounds of food to benefit local community.

A-4



Sewing detail

540th QM Co. saves service members money.

B-1

Aha Aina

Native Hawaiian Liaison Office holds a holiday Hawaiian show for families.

B-3

This issue

Footsteps in Faith A-2

News Briefs A-7

FMWR B-2

Sports B-4

8th TSC

58th MP's brings smiles, warmth to Afghan children

Story and Photo by
CAPT. MEGAN R. SPANGLE
Commander, 58th Military Police Company, 728th MP Battalion, 8th MP Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – Hesitant and shy at first, Afghan children swarmed Soldiers excitedly, anxiously and eagerly to receive their new gifts.

Mothers and grandmothers holding babies lingered in the background, but their burqas could not disguise their appreciation as female Soldiers from the 58th Military Police Company, 728th MP Battalion, 8th MP Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, donated homemade blankets and pillows to 80 women and children in Kandahar City's Shah Bazaar village, here, Nov. 22.

The Afghan families received blankets and pillows, as well as shoes, notebooks and radios donated to the unit by the Dickinson County Juvenile Probation Unit from Iron Mountain, Mich. The donation was made possible with help from Sgt. Jamie Sleik, an Iron Mountain native and member of the 58th MP Co.'s Female Engagement Team, or FET.

Sleik and three female Soldiers distributed the blankets, while three

others interacted with the group and passed out small bracelets imprinted with positive Afghan slogans. Enthusiasm and entertainment transcended the language barrier as many children communicated more with smiles than their words ever could.

"I like being able to show the community that we're here to help them. This is a positive side to the after effects of war."

— **Sgt. Brittany Deters**
FET, 58th MP Co.

"I like being able to show the community that we're here to help them," said Sgt. Brittany Deters, FET, 58th MP Co. "This is a positive side to the after effects of war."

The unit used its female Soldiers and a female linguist to find a way to interact with local women, which allowed the unit to address domestic

SEE 58th MP CO., A-6



Sgt. Jamie Sleik (right), FET, 58th MP Co., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, gives an Afghan family a homemade blanket in Kandahar City's Shah Bazaar village, Afghanistan, Nov. 22. The blankets were donated by the Dickinson County Juvenile Probation Unit in Iron Mountain, Mich.



Sgt. Nathan Akridge | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

A young boy takes in the view of the hangar on Wheeler Army Airfield atop the shoulders of a recently redeployed Soldier with HHBN, 25th ID, Monday.

Second wave comes home

SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE M. BATTLE
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD – "Dismissed!"

The command echoed throughout the building, signaling what many 25th Infantry Division Soldiers and their family members had been dreaming of for the past 12 months: to be reunited with their loved ones.

More than 140 Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th ID, reunited with their families and friends during a late night ceremony, here, Monday, following a year-long deployment in support of Operation New Dawn in Iraq.

Keeping in mind the ceremony was one of the last things standing in the way of reunions, 12 months in the making, Col. Matthew Kelley, deputy commander-rear, 25th ID, kept his welcoming remarks quick and to the point.

"'Tropic Lightning' Soldiers, thank you for all you have done. Thank you to the families," he said. "And thank you for what you have done for the people

of Iraq."

Following the singing of the "Tropic Lightning March" and the Army song, Kelley gave the final command, bringing on a thunderous cheer. Family members and friends immediately started running from the bleachers into the formation, some leaping into the arms of their returning loved ones.

Since late 2010, more than 700 HHBN Soldiers have served as the support element for 25th ID's headquarters. The unit was responsible for leading the advise, train and assist mission throughout central Iraq. It's currently the last division headquarters under U.S. Forces-Iraq and responsible for overseeing operational-level detail, command and control needed until the completion of U.S. forces withdrawing from Iraq.

This redeployment marks the second of the division's elements exiting Iraq as a part of a 2008 U.S. agreement to withdraw all U.S. troops by the end of 2011.

The remaining 25th ID Soldiers in Iraq are scheduled to return by Christmas Eve.

New Year brings new ID card policy at commissary on post

Story and Photo by
VICKEY MOUZÉ
Acting Managing Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – A new policy requiring that military ID cards be checked at the commissary's entrance and cash registers, here, starts Jan. 2.

Also, authorized patrons will be limited to two guests.

The current practice is an open policy. Any authorized user's guest can enter the commissary, although purchases must be made by an authorized ID card holder.

The new policy is the result of a recommendation made at the recent Army Family Action Plan conference, here, in October.

Issues about commissary overcrowding, abuse of privileges and a reduced inventory were discussed at the conference. One of the working groups recommended

that ID cards be checked at the entrance and checkout counter to limit access.

Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, who attended the report-out, agreed with the group's recommendation.

"A decision was made by the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii to check IDs at the door and limit two guests per ID card holder," said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI. "This decision was based on a survey conducted by the garrison's Plans, Analysis and Integration Office."

PAIO conducted the survey Nov. 9, 12 and 15. Survey participants were patrons who voluntarily showed authorized ID cards and/or wore an active duty uniform.

Of the 424 surveys issued, 409 were valid surveys.

At least 377 responses were required to obtain a 95 percent confidence level with a +/- 5 percent margin of error, according to the survey conducted by USAG-HI.

Participants completed a written four-question survey regarding status, service, neighborhood and preference to checking IDs at the door. Participants were asked about their preferences for the Commissary:

- Check for ID cards at the door and no guests allowed.
- Check for ID cards at the door and guests sign in.
- Check for ID cards at the door and guests accompany the ID cardholder.
- Check for ID cards at time of purchase only and guests accompany (authorized ID cardholders).

SEE POLICY, A-7

25th CAB Family Support Center opens doors to CAB families

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

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD – It is said that behind every strong man is a strong woman, but for Soldiers, it is a strong family.

When Soldiers deploy, they leave behind a spouse who often becomes both a mother and father. However, for Soldiers who are married without children, deployments are just as stressful.

To help families during deployments, the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, opened the brigade's Family Support Center, in Building 102, here, Nov. 28, to help its families remain "Army Strong."

"The FSC is very critical and important for family readiness on upcoming deployments," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jesus Ruiz, senior enlisted leader, 25th CAB. "It's very useful for families new to the Army and to the unit to be able to go to a one-stop shop and be able to solve any issue, concern or problem that arises."

The 25th CAB created the FSC to provide resources and support to its families. The brigade consolidated a collection of resources ranging from a children's room, to a computer lab to keep families in contact with deployed service members, to military assistance for when spouses need support.

SEE 25th CAB, A-6



Lt. Col. Thomas O'Connor, commander, 2nd Sqdn., 6th Cavalry Regiment, 25th CAB, 25th ID, plays with his son in the children's room of the brigade's new Family Support Center on Wheeler Army Airfield, Nov. 22.

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 email 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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12 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 12/8/11.

Carlisle extends his gratitude to redeployed Soldiers

SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE M. BATTLE
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, who recently returned from Iraq, welcomed a surprise guest during their Soldier Readiness Processing, here, Dec. 1.

Peter Carlisle, mayor of the city and county of Honolulu, visited with the recently redeployed Soldiers and offered his personal thanks for their service in Iraq.

"I wanted to be here to thank you ever so much for your service," Carlisle said.

Carlisle also said he recently had the opportunity to be a part of the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference, a program sponsored by the secretary of defense for civilian public opinion leaders interested in expanding their knowledge of the military and national defense issues.

"They take a bunch of old people like me to the sort of places you train, including the Airborne School in Fort Campbell, Ky., where they had me – in my advanced age and severe fear of heights – rappelling," he told the Soldiers.

"I have to tell you, rappelling is a very great experience, except for those people who were underneath me, because I came down like a rock and didn't stop until I hit the ground.

"It was a tremendously humbling experience," Carlisle added. "I don't think, even in the best days, when I was your age, I could even come close to doing the physical training and (have) the mental focus it takes to be a Soldier in today's Army."

Following his remarks, Carlisle invited each of the



Spc. Kayla Thomas | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Peter Carlisle (center), mayor of the city and county of Honolulu, speaks with Soldiers of HHBN, 25th ID, during their SRP, Dec. 1. Carlisle thanked the troops for their service to the country and community and also handed out free tickets to see "Riverdance" as a token of his appreciation.

returning Soldiers to come forward and accept a special token of his appreciation for their service: free tickets to see "Riverdance."

"Again, thank you for what you do for your country and for your community, and we are humbled by being here in your presence," he said.

USAG-HI to no longer issue DOD vehicle decals for POVs

U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII
Directorate of Emergency Services

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Starting Jan. 16, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii will no longer issue Department of Defense decals for privately owned vehicles.

As a result, DOD decals won't be required for access to USAG-HI installations. Instead, the common access card, or CAC, and other approved identification will be the single source used to allow access through any Army installation access control point.

Until Jan. 16, current decal requirements will remain in effect. Decals do not need to be removed from POVs if they have not expired. Once a decal expires you will

be required to return it to either the Schofield Barracks or the Fort Shafter Provost Marshal Office.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, have been notified of the Army's upcoming policy. These commands have been asked to honor CAC cards.

Soldiers, family members, civilian employees and their commands must ensure that all POVs comply with Hawaii state laws and are properly registered. Vehicle owners must have current and valid insurance, as well as a state-required safety sticker.

The Security Branch, Directorate of Emergency Services, USAG-HI, will continue to maintain and

issue rank emblem decals for general officers and nominative command sergeants major. Those decals will be issued at the Installation Pass offices located at Leilehua Golf Course (655-1620) and Fort Shafter Flats (438-0982).

Rank emblem decals for the rank of colonel, chief warrant officer 5, sergeant major and command sergeants major will also be issued until stocks of those decals have been depleted.

Also, after Jan. 16, weapons registration will be completed at either the Schofield Barracks or the Fort Shafter PMO.

For more information, call 656-6750.

U.S. Pacific Command to honor service of CSM Savusa

U.S. ARMY-PACIFIC
Public Affairs Office

FORT SHAFTER — The senior enlisted leader of U.S. Pacific Command will retire in a ceremony, here, 10 a.m., Dec. 19.

Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Savusa will be accorded a Flying "V" ceremony during the event, and Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, will host the ceremony.

A Flying "V" ceremony traditionally welcomes or honors senior Army officials when they assume duties or depart from an Army command. The Flying V name refers to the way the colors are posted in a V-shape during the ceremony.

Savusa has served as the PACOM command sergeant major since Sept. 1, 2009. His duties include advising the

PACOM combatant commander and his staff, providing enlisted perspective on area of responsibility strategic vision

and theater security cooperation, and developing enlisted leadership capabilities of PACOM's partner nations.

Savusa oversees the operational readiness of 350,000 U.S. military personnel.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal with "V" (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal (4th Oak Leaf Cluster).



Savusa

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

Death may be the greatest teacher of all by helping us appreciate life

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) ALAN T. SAVAGE
Chaplains Office, U.S. Army-Pacific

The nurse escorted me down a long hallway that opened into a dark lab room.

Through the shadows, I saw an old woman sitting next to a gurney.

The nurse nodded in the woman's direction and then closed the door behind her as she left.

With hesitation leaking out of my voice, I introduced myself as the duty chaplain for the local Army post and offered my condolences. After what seemed like hours, the woman looked up with tear-stained eyes and softly replied, "Thank you for coming."

Feeling a bit awkward and searching my mind for something appropriate to say, I wisely resigned myself to silence and pulled up a chair and sat quietly

by her side.

She lovingly stroked his forehead and then leaned forward and kissed his now blue lips. "It's going to be alright my love. You rest now," she whispered.

I found out later that Rose and her husband had been married for nearly 45 years, and they had settled in the area after his retirement from the Army.

Hot tears fell from her chin onto the cold skin of her husband's face as she continued to gently run her fingers

through his hair.

Realizing that I was witnessing a sacred experi-

ence, I excused myself and pulled my chair to the back wall, several feet away.

For the next 20 minutes or so, I sat silently and watched Rose speak softly to her husband, telling him how much she loved and missed him. All the while, she gently stroked his head, kissed his face and quietly wept over his body. Tears rolled down my face as I took in this deeply provocative example of relational intimacy.

By watching Rose suffer through the issue of death, she taught me a great lesson on the value of life. It reminded me of the sage advice of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow when he wrote, "Take this sorrow to thy heart and make it a part of thee, and it will nourish thee until thou art strong again."

The thorns of life allowed Rose to grow and actually helped her to bloom.



Savage

Voices of Ohana



"I try not to overdo things. If I don't have time to do all the prep for the holiday, I just cut it down to what I can easily manage."

Lorraine Cashen
New Parent Support Program / Family Advocacy, ACS



"My holiday stress is, I try to do best for my kids. I want to give them stuff I never had."

Staff Sgt. Lester Mungro
196th Inf. Bde.



"I just take it easy. I'm grateful for what I have compared to other people, especially our service members overseas."

Kenneth Rogers
USPS



"I do yoga at the Kailua Beach Park."

Sgt. 1st Class Juan Silva
8th TSC



"I take things as they come and don't dwell on things that come up. Mostly, I just try to go with the flow and work through it."

Michael Tanigawa
Manager, Information and Referral Program, ACS

‘Never Daunted, Never Hungry’ food drive nets 1.7K in proceeds

561st Eng. Co., “Warriors,” collects most cans for second year in a row

CAPT. CHRISTOPHER REN
84th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – While most families enjoy plenty of great food during the holidays, not everyone is fortunate enough to have turkey and all the fixings.

Soldiers of the 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, are making sure those families have food on their tables during the holidays.

The “Never Daunted, Never Hungry” food drive collected canned food during the month of November for the Hawaii Food Bank. The battalion’s Soldiers gathered more than 7,000 cans of food and raised more than \$1,700.

For the second year in a row, the 561st Eng. Company collected the largest number of cans within the battalion, totaling 3,400 cans and more than \$1,100 in donations. The company also had the largest percentage of cans per Soldier, averaging nearly 18 cans each.

“Awesome food drive,” said Kim Bartenstein, food drive manager, Hawaii Food Bank. “The 84th collected 5,861 pounds of food, and the Hawaii Food Bank will be able to provide food for 8,865 meals with the generous donation.”

This year was the second year the battalion has conducted the food drive. Last year, between November and December, its Soldiers collected nearly 8,000 cans of food for the Hawaii Food Bank.

“Even many Soldiers experience tough times and often have to choose between food and other necessities,” said Capt. Karen-Nicole Knapper, food drive organizer for the battalion. “Month by month, our Soldiers are having to choose between buying groceries and budgeting for other necessities.”

The donations collected by the 84th Eng. Bn. will help to alleviate the burden of hunger shouldered by many service members and Oahu locals.

According to research numbers provided by Army Community



2nd Lt. Scott Kantner | 84th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

Soldiers of the 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, stand alongside Kim Bartenstein (civilian), food drive manager, Hawaii Food Bank, Nov. 22. The battalion collected 5,861 pounds of food, which will be used to provide food for 8,865 meals.

Service, here, 28 percent of service members' households must choose between paying their rent or buying groceries, while 21 percent must choose between paying utilities or buying food.

Within Hawaii's general public, research shows that hunger is also

a growing problem. According to research conducted by “Hunger in Hawaii” in 2010, the Hawaii Food Bank feeds more than 14 percent of Hawaii's population, including the elderly, the homeless and low-income families who or are disabled or unemployed.

PRMC’s Tele-behavioral health cell officially opens its doors in Hawaii

JAN CLARK
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Behavioral health care for service members and their dependents throughout the Pacific, and outlying distant areas, is now available, using tele-health technology.

The Pacific Regional Medical Command’s Tele-behavioral Health, or TBH cell, officially opened its doors, here, Nov. 28.

“This event represents partnership between regional commands, local commands, facilities and providers of different disciplines, all working towards a shared common goal,” said Lt. Eduardo Cua, U.S. Public Health Services Corps, and director, TBH and Surge Support.

In 2009, redeploying Soldiers from Tripler Army Medical Center participated in a Virtual Behavioral Health pilot, in support of the Army chief of staff’s directive to provide all Soldiers with behavioral health screening and treatment.

The pilot program used three counseling options: face-to-face; high bandwidth video tele-conferencing, or VTC; and low bandwidth Defense Connect Online, or DCO.

The pilot program discovered that these alternate means of reaching Soldiers were well received.

“Tele-health is not an option for us; it is an absolute necessity,” said Dr. Ray Folen, chief, Department of Psychology, TAMC.

“It’s hard to believe, but we live in the most isolated population center in the world,” Folen said. “It’s thousands of miles from the Hawaiian Islands to anywhere else. It is 2,400 miles from here to California. Japan is more than 3,800 miles away.

“To this isolation, add the fact that PRMC’s area of responsibility covers 52 percent of the Earth’s surface,” he said.

The program is also effective in reducing barriers to care, stigma, travel time and costs, as well as improving health care outcomes.

Also, the pilot program demonstrated how to streamline and improve behavioral health access for Soldiers by identifying symptoms and the risk of suicide and treatment options to improve patient outcomes.

The pilot results indicate that Soldiers like it and, in many cases, prefer virtual TBH. It’s available and offered to those service

members who want to use it.

“(Service members) like it, and that’s a tough sell,” said Brig. Gen. Keith Gallagher, commander, PRMC and TAMC.

“If you look at behavioral health and you look at the stigma that is out there, getting past the ‘what are you going to think about me’ is a challenge,” Gallagher said. “Today, the tele-behavioral health cell is a robust operation serving Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen, as well as their dependents worldwide.

“In the Pacific, we offer care to Schofield Barracks’ patients, the TAMC community, as well as Japan, Okinawa and Korea. In addition, the TBH cell has responded to the behavioral health needs in Alaska, Texas and Kansas, and partnerships are being forged in the neighbor islands to support our Guard and Reserve components,” he added.

“We at TAMS and PRMC are proud to have, here on the TAMC campus, the means to meet the needs of our service members and their families during this critical time for the Army and sister services,” Gallagher concluded.

Fort Shafter Exchange works to improve its offerings, services

SGT. 1ST CLASS JON CUPP
Army and Air Force Exchange Service-Pacific Region

FORT SHAFTER – Improvements are being made at the Exchange, here.

Recent changes to the Fort Shafter Exchange include the addition of a Planet Smoothie as well as the expansion of items offered at its Snack Avenue, to include egg rolls, breadsticks, jalapeno chicken tornados, fresh pastries from Prairie City Bakery and Starbucks coffee.

Free Wi-Fi service will also be available at the food court.

According to Beatriz Diaz, manager, Main Exchange Store, the Exchange offers Asian cuisine, Hawaiian offerings and Hispanic foods, which really reflect the “diversity of the cultures found on Hawaii and the uniqueness of the island.”

“We’re truly unique and have a broader assortment of food than any other Exchange facility,” Diaz said. “Many Exchanges get items only from their warehouses and vendors, but here, we also are able to get items straight from the distributor. This is one of the reasons we were able to expand our assortment.”

The Exchange not only offers a few items not typically found

at other Exchanges – such as fresh pineapple, large bags of Asian rice, Hawaiian barbecue sauce, pumpkin and fruit baskets – but also operates a deli that prepares fresh seafood and receives sushi from a local vendor, daily.

“People are sometimes amazed with the selection we have because we also offer everything from Spam musubi, a sticky rice and Spam dish, to Philly cheesesteak sandwiches,” Diaz said.

The Exchange facility at Fort Shafter boasts a Domino’s Pizza, a Subway, a dry cleaners, an alterations shop, a barber shop, a military clothing store and an Army Leisure Travel Services office.

“We really strive to be a one-stop shop where you can come get your uniforms altered, eat lunch and check off a few things on your shopping list in one convenient location,” Diaz said.

One of the goals of the Fort Shafter Exchange’s mission is to offer merchandise at competitively low prices.

“We do price surveys based off the average price of items at off-base stores, and our prices are usually comparable to, if not lower than, the competition,” Diaz said.

Besides competitive pricing, the Exchange frequently offers coupons, price matching against similar merchandise at other

stores and some, in-store, closeout specials of up to 40 percent off select items.

If a customer can’t find a particular item at Fort Shafter, the Exchange will use its shuttle program to get the item to them, Diaz said.

“To ensure military families living and working near smaller locations enjoy the same selection as those at bigger installations, the Exchange instituted a shuttle program that can route items from one Exchange to the other,” Diaz said. “Everything from large appliances to DVDs can be delivered through the shuttle program.”

The most important aspect of Exchange operations for Diaz and her staff of 40 Exchange associates is giving back to Fort Shafter’s military community, she said.

“This is the reason we exist, and we enjoy working for our military service members to improve their quality of life,” Diaz said. “We have a close relationship with our customers here, and we have the opportunity to attend the spouses’ support group meetings to get their feedback and make sure we are meeting their needs.”

Scholarship applications for higher education now available for families

2012 Military Spouse, Military Children programs open

THE NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
News Release

ALEXANDRIA, VA – The application process for spouses and military keiki seeking higher education is in full swing.

The National Military Family Association is accepting applications for its annual Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship Program, and the Defense Commissary Agency is accepting applications for its 2012 Scholarships for Military Children program.

Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship Program

NMFA recognizes the unique challenges today’s military spouses face pursuing additional training or education. Scholarships of up to \$1,000 are awarded to help ease the financial obstacles that accompany pursuing a higher education.

Scholarships are awarded in six categories:

- General (high school GED, English as a second language, post-secondary, graduate).
- Licensing fee.
- Science, technology, engineering or math degree (to include certain health care fields).
- Spouses of fallen service members.
- Spouses of wounded service members.

•Vocational or technical certification.

Applications will only be accepted online and must be submitted by midnight EST, Jan. 31. Spouses of uniformed service members – active duty, National Guard and Reserve, retirees and survivors – from any branch or rank are eligible to apply. Scholarship funds may be used to assist with tuition, fees, and school room and board.

This scholarship program is made possible by partnerships with BAE Systems and Folds of Honor Foundation.

Scholarships for Military Children

DeCA applications for the 2012 Scholarships for Military Children program are available at commissaries worldwide, as well as online at www.militaryscholar.org.

The program awards at least one \$1,500 scholarship to a student at each commissary. Scholarships are funded by donations from commissary vendors, manufacturers, brokers, suppliers and the general public.

To be eligible for a scholarship, a student must have a current military ID card, be an unmarried child, be no older than 23 and be the dependent child of a service member on active duty, in the Reserves or Guard, of a retiree, or of a survivor of a military member who died while on active duty or survivor of a retiree. Also, the student must be enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university.

Scholarship Checklist

- I have enclosed a transcript or copy of my grades with my application.
- I have enclosed my essay with my name on each page.
- My parent or guardian (the sponsor) has signed the application.
- My sponsor is deployed, my other parent, or a guardian, has signed the application.
- I am a dependent unmarried child under age 23 of active duty personnel, reserve/guard and retired military members, or survivor of service members who died while on active duty or survivor of individual who died while receiving retired pay from the military.
- I am not a dependent child of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service, other federal or military related agencies or activities, or a DoD civilian employee.
- I have signed the application.
- My high school College Board Code # (if available) is on the application.
- I have kept a copy of my application and essay.

Checklist courtesy of www.militaryscholar.org

Checklist for applicants for 2012 Scholarships for Military Children.

Applicants must submit an essay on a topic listed at www.militaryscholar.org. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business, Feb. 24.

(Editor’s Note: DeCA contributed to the content of this article.)

Facebook town hall well received

LACEY JUSTINGER

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD – U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii hosted its second social media-based town hall, Nov. 30, to address community concerns in a format community members are familiar with: Facebook.

The Facebook format replaced both in-person town halls and televised town halls due to lack of participation in both venues, and the format will continue to be a quarterly event.

“We want to ensure our garrison customers, including Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians, have a voice in our actions,” said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI. “We have many venues in place to encourage this dialogue. The Facebook town hall encourages interaction in a way most community members are more comfortable with.”

More than 110 guests RSVP'd their attendance from the U.S. Army-Hawaii community. They asked 71 initial questions and followed up with more than 475 interactions, including questions, comments and “likes.”

Hot topics covered pet concerns, housing issues and security on post.

Questions that were unable to be addressed during the hour-and-a-half event are being staffed and will be addressed on the page shortly. Garrison representatives from the Directorate of Emergency Services; Island Palm Communities; the Directorate of Public Works; and the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation – and its School Liaison Office and Army Community Service – were on hand to address the issues presented in cyberspace.

The garrison's command group, including Mulbury; Jim Duttweiler, deputy commander; and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson, senior enlisted leader, also logged onto computers

to answer queries.

Tripler Army Medical Center, its Schofield Barracks Health Clinic, the Directorate of Installation Safety, the Directorate of Logistics and the Directorate of Human Resources also received a few queries during the event and are finalizing their responses.

Aside from a few computer quirks that added adrenaline bursts, the town hall was deemed a success from USAG-HI subject matter experts and community participants, according to comments posted on the event page.

“The beauty of the Facebook town hall is that anyone with a Facebook account can participate, no matter where they are – at home, in a cubicle or at a soccer game,” said Dennis Drake, director, USAG-HI Public Affairs. “They have the opportunity to converse directly with the people who help make decisions about on-post programs and services.”



Garrison questions

Submit garrison questions at ice.disa.mil or email askthecommander@us.army.mil.

Check out USAG-HI's social media sites at:

- www.facebook.com/usaghawaii
- www.twitter.com/usaghawaii
- www.flickr.com/usaghawaii
- www.youtube.com/usaghawaii



58th MP Co.: FET interacts with locals

CONTINUED FROM A-1

issues that would have otherwise been unknown.

“The purpose of the (FET) is to talk to a segment of the population that has previously been disregarded or ignored,” said 1st Lt. Danelle Gamble, 58th MP Co. “Female Soldiers are able to gain access into the private homes in a way that male Soldiers cannot to discuss domestic and family issues.”

The 58th MP Co.’s police partner, the Afghan Uniformed Police, led and coordinated the meeting after they identified groups of families in need. During the meeting, the AUP commander directed his police to provide additional security outside the residence where the goods were distributed. Police displayed the cooperation and professionalism built between the 58th MP Co. and local Afghan police.

At the conclusion of the donation, Afghan men and women who hosted the event invited the Soldiers to share coffee and chai, a local tea. They discussed the success of the mission and the difference that the warm blankets and clothes will make when temperatures begin to drop.

The police commander expressed his gratitude and emphasized the importance of sharing their thanks with American youth who sent the packages.

“It’s really important to me that the kids who put this together know what a difference they’re making,” Sleik said.

This humanitarian assistance is the fourth mission the 58th MP Co. has participated in since its deployment to Afghanistan this summer.

25th CAB: Facility is one-stop shop for all

CONTINUED FROM A-1

“Being new to the unit, it’s great to be able to go to one spot and have your issues and concerns dealt with,” said Iris Spires, wife of Spc. Christopher Spires, Co. B, 209th Avn. Support Battalion, 25th CAB.

“Soldiers in combat need to know that their families are safe, and that if a problem arises, that they will have the resources at their disposal to address them.”

— **Maj. James Fischer**
Deputy commander-rear,
25th CAB, 25th ID

The FSC will also provide personnel ranging from paralegals, a rear detachment chaplain and an assistant, to family readiness support assistants, representatives from each battalion, squadron, and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, to a Military and Family Life consultant.

In January, the FSC will open an Internet cafe with six computers and webcams so families can communicate with their Soldier downrange.

“Family readiness is essential to deployment readiness,” said Maj. James Fischer, deputy commander-rear, 25th CAB. “Soldiers in combat must know that families are safe, and that if a problem arises, that they will have the resources at their disposal to address them.”

Courtesy of 2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

Professional development

HONOLULU — Officers of 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, participate in a professional development lecture series at the State Capitol Building, here, Nov. 28. The series focused on Hawaiian history and culture.

Annelle Amaral, Native Hawaiian liaison, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, provided several lectures and acted as an overall guide throughout the program.

Events like this one allow leaders to gain a better understanding of the Hawaiian Islands and provide perspective on local history and culture, which assists in developing stronger community partnerships.





Michelyn Kea (left), administrative support clerk, Schofield Barracks Commissary, demonstrates an ID card check with Sarah Elser, family member, Dec. 5. Starting Jan. 2, military ID cards will be checked at the entrance and at the register at the Schofield Barracks Commissary.

Policy: New ID check process begins Jan. 2

CONTINUED FROM A-1

According to the survey, 63 percent of those affiliated with the Army preferred to check ID cards at the door as opposed to 37 percent who said to check at the cash register.

“The implementation of the ID checks and limiting guests are what the majority of our customers have requested,” Mulbury said. “The garrison has listened and these changes reflect your requests. We ask for your patience and understanding as we implement this new process.”

Signs advising patrons of the new policy will be posted by Dec. 9 at the front door and at all exits.

News Briefs

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

Today

Reverse Direction Spike Strips — Reverse direction spike strips will be installed during weekends in December at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter gates. Times and locations follow:

- McNair Gate, Schofield Barracks, through Dec. 4.
- Macomb Gate, Schofield Barracks, Dec. 9-11.
- Buckner Gate, Fort Shafter, Dec. 16-18.
- Foote Gate, Schofield Barracks, Dec. 23-25.
- Lyman Gate, Schofield Barracks, Dec. 30-31.

Exit traffic will be temporarily detoured to another gate/lane during the installation. Inbound traffic will not be impacted. Hours for other gates remain unchanged. Plan for additional travel time due to expected traffic congestion. Call 656-6751/6750.

17 / Saturday

New Hours — Starting 8 p.m., Dec. 17, McNair Gate at Schofield Barracks will close at 8 p.m., Friday, and open again at 5 a.m., Monday. It will be closed on weekends and holidays. Call 656-6750/6751/5398.

31 / Saturday

Free Overnight Hotel Vouchers — Active duty service members traveling to or leaving the U.S. can present their ID card and a copy of their official travel orders at the Honolulu International Airport USO to get a free overnight hotel voucher. This offer is good through Dec. 31. For a list of participating hotels, visit www.salutetosoldiers.com. Call 422-1213 or email elsmith@uso.org or btroegner@uso.org.

January

16 / Monday

Defense Employer Support Freedom Award —

Deadline is Jan. 16 for all Guard and Reserve members to nominate employers who have provided exceptional support of their military service. Submit nominations at www.FreedomAward.mil.

Ongoing

PT Routes — Units are asked to observe authorized Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield physical training routes. Units are also asked to show courtesy while conducting formations and PT on installation fields adjacent to family housing areas. Details are outlined in USAG-HI Policy Memorandum “Authorized Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield (PT) Routes and Pedestrian Rights and Duties.” Questions can be addressed with the USAG-HI command sergeant major at 656-1153.

Suspicious Activity — “iWatch Army” is a community program to help your neighborhood stay safe from terrorist activities. iWatch Army asks you to report behavior and activities that are unusual or seem out of the ordinary.

Report all suspicious activity to the Military Police:

- Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield and Helemano Military Reservation: 655-7114.
- Fort Shafter, Aliamanu Military Reservation and Tripler Army Medical Center: 438-7114.
- Fort DeRussy: 438-2650.
- Pohakuloa Training Area: 969-2429.

Prevention Tool — MyPrime is an online alcohol and substance abuse prevention and intervention training tool that provides Soldiers with the ability to self-assess their own high-risk behaviors and influence changes in attitude, belief and behavior. Modeled after the successful classroom-based training program and current Army Drug and Alcohol Prevention Training, PRIME for Life, myPRIME’s online training enables the Army to better serve deployed Soldiers. Log in at <https://forums.army.mil/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=1596430>.



Spc. Thomas Gidibmaa (left) and Spc. Daisy Rojo, both with the 540th QM Co., 524th CSSB, 45th SB, 8th TSC, work together to finish their daily duties at the Post Renovation Shop at Schofield Barracks.

540th QM Co. offers uniform services for free

Story and Photos by

SGT. 1ST CLASS MAURICE SMITH

45th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs, 8th Theater Sust. Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS —The Post Renovation Shop, here, is a small building and easy to miss.

Operated by the 540th Quartermaster Company, the shop, located at Building 585, offers a variety of sewing services for Soldiers' uniforms.

The shop sews on skill badges, replaces worn-out Velcro on uniforms and makes nametapes for troops every day.

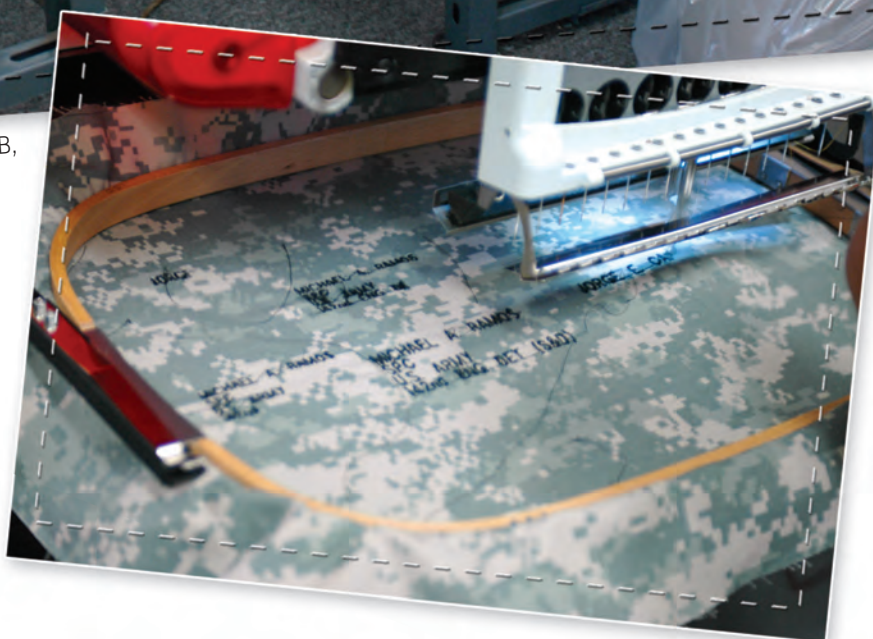
Soldiers spend money at a variety of alterations shops off post, daily, not knowing the same thing is done, here, at no cost to them.

"We do it for free," said Capt. Broderick Jackson, commander, 540th QM Co, 524th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 45th Sust. Brigade, 8th Theater Sust. Command. "Just not a lot of people know about it."

According to Jackson, one uniform can easily cost \$40-\$50 to get nametapes, rank and special skill tabs sewn on. Soldiers can save \$200 or more by taking four or five uniforms to the shop on post, Jackson said.

"Living in Hawaii can be very expensive, especially for lower-ranking Soldiers," Jackson said. "Products cost more here because most of them are imported. You are looking at spending \$4 a gallon for gas, and it may come down to deciding on getting gas or getting new nametapes. One of the two is not going to happen."

While same-day services are offered at shops off post, Soldiers can get their uniforms back within 72 hours at the shop, here. The shop requires that customers must be an ID cardholder, and uniforms must be clean when dropping them off.



The Post Renovation Shop offers a variety of products for Soldiers, such as embroidered badges.



Spc. Thomas Gidibmaa sews a nametape onto a uniform.

Post Renovation Shop Hours

The shop is located next to the Arts and Craft Center, Schofield Barracks.

Hours of operation follow:

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

1:30-3:30 p.m., Thursday.



Today
Friday Night Entertainment Series — Enjoy live entertainment each Friday night at Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks. From Latin and hip-hop to open mic night, something's available for everyone. Call 655-0664.

10 / Saturday
Read to the Dogs — Keiki who can read on their own can sign up for a 15-minute session to read to a dog, Dec. 10, Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Preregistration required. Call 655-8002.

Cosmic Bowling — Cosmic Bowling starts at 3 p.m., Saturdays, at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center and at 1 p.m., Sundays, at the Fort Shafter Bowling Center. Call Schofield at 655-0573 or Fort Shafter at 438-6733.

All-Army Sports — Deadline for men and women to register is Dec. 10 for cross-county. Call 655-0856.

11 / Sunday
Florida Marlins — Meet the Marlins and the Mermaid Dancers, Dec. 11, Schofield Barracks. Participants for youth clinics must be preregistered and between the ages of 9-14. Register at www.himwr.com. All events are Dec. 11 at Schofield Barracks:
 •1:45-2:45 p.m.: Meet and greet, Tropics Warrior Zone (must be 18 and older to enter).
 •3-4 p.m.: Youth baseball and dance clinics, Ralston Field.
 •4-5 p.m.: Youth meet and greet, Ralston Field.
 Call 656-3329 or 655-0112.

12 / Monday
Ladies Golf Clinic — Usually held every first Saturday of the month, the Leilehua Golf Course free ladies golf clinic has been changed to 1:30-3 p.m., Dec.12, for December. Call 655-4653.

New Year Softball Tournament — Deadline to enter this tournament is Dec. 12. Tournament dates are Jan. 3-13. Call 655-0856.

14 / Wednesday
Afterschool Story Time — Elementary-age keiki are invited to listen to

communityCalendar

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

Today
"Dreaming of a Green Christmas" — Deadline to RSVP is Dec. 9 for this Hui O' Na Wahine all-ranks spouses club holiday luncheon, Dec. 15, at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. The event opens at 10:30 a.m. for shopping, with a buffet lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The event costs \$15 and includes lunch. For last names beginning with A-L, email huireservationsal@gmail.com; for M-Z, email huireservationsmz@gmail.com. Visit www.schofieldspouses.com or email huionawahine@gmail.com.

10 / Saturday
5K Jingle Bell Jog — This free event is 8 a.m, Dec. 10, at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center. The event is open to all eligible base patrons. Prizes will be awarded to top participants in men's, women's and children's divisions. Call 448-2214.

Candy Jar Workshop — Stop by the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center anytime between 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Dec. 10, to create your snowman candy jar. Cost is \$25 and includes supplies. Call 655-4202.

Athletic Booster Club Craft Fair — Features craft items and food booths, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Dec. 10, Mililani High School, 95-1200 Meheula Pkwy. Call 627-7369.

Hawaiian Santa Arrives — St. Nick will surf in, 9 a.m., Dec. 10, at the Outrigger Waikiki, 2335 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu. Keiki of Halau O Pua Kahale will greet Santa with the gift of hula. Afterward, complimentary photos with Santa will take place in the hotel lobby. Call 921-6941.



Courtesy Photo

Festival of Lights

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM — Free evening boat tours for the Holiday Festival of Lights at Pearl Harbor will be offered to the public, Dec. 16-18. The 30-minute boat tours will depart from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center each evening between 6-8:30 p.m. at 15-minute intervals. Featured will be Christmas music and harbor-side views of the many Pearl Harbor ships and submarines, decked out with holiday decorations and lights. Seats are limited; tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 5:30 p.m., at the Visitor Center, each day of the tour. Canned good donations for Hawaii's food charities will be accepted. Call 954-8721.

the "Polar Express," 3-3:45 p.m., Dec. 14, Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks.

Free Coconut Weaving Workshop — Learn to make bracelets, hats or headbands using coconut palm fronds, 5:30 p.m., Dec. 14, at the AMR Community Center, Building 1788, 182 Kauhini Rd. To register, call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com.

Kids Meal — Every Wednesday night, keiki under 10 can eat for \$1.99 at Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks, or at Mulligan's Bar and Grill, Fort Shafter. Call Kolekole Bar and Grill at 655-0664 or Mulligan's Bar and Grill at 438-6712.

Basketball Court Closure — The basketball court at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Schofield Barracks, will be closed Dec. 14-19, so its hardwood floors can be resurfaced. Other areas of the gym will remain open and be available for use. Racquetball courts, weight

rooms and the Nautilus room will remain open for use. Call 655-8006.

15 / Thursday
Keiki Craft Night — Bring kids to Keiki Craft Night, 5 p.m., Dec. 15, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. Call 438-1974.

18 / Sunday
Adventure Surfing — Surf with Outdoor Recreation, 6:30-11:30 a.m., Dec. 18. To register, call 655-0143.

31 / Saturday
New Year's Eve Bash — Celebrate New Year's Eve at the Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter bowling centers. Reserve your lanes by calling Schofield at 655-0573 or Fort Shafter at 438-6733.

Leilehua Golf Pro Shop — The golf pro shop's holiday sale, through Dec. 31, offers 10-50 percent off all merchandise, including sale and clearance items (excludes special orders). Call 655-4653.

Ongoing

Free Fitness Classes — Soldiers and family members can attend a variety of free fitness classes at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center. Visit www.himwr.com.

TAMC Physical Fitness Classes — Active duty Soldiers and their family members can show their military ID at TAMC's Physical Fitness Center to sign up for free classes. Cost for Army civilians is \$4 per class or \$25 per month. Call 433-6443.

2012 NFL Pro Bowl Presale — Tickets are on sale at the Schofield Barracks Army Leisure Travel Services Office and are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Ticket purchasers must have a military ID card and be 18 years of age or older. Call 655-9971. The annual contest of the AFC and NFC's best will take place Jan. 29 at Aloha Stadium.

Holiday Parades

(For a complete listing, visit www.honolulu.gov.)

The U.S. Army Hawaii community of Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians are encouraged to enjoy seasonal celebrations in diverse communities.



Dec. 9, Haleiwa Christmas Parade — From 6-8 p.m., starts at Weed Circle, to Kamehameha Highway, through Haleiwa Town, and ends at Haleiwa Beach Park.

Dec. 9, Kapahulu Moiliili Christmas Parade — From 6-8:30 p.m., starts at Kuhio Elementary School, to King Street, to Beretania Street, to Isenberg Street, ends at Old Stadium Park. Sponsored by Kapahulu-Moiliili Lions Club.

Dec. 10, Aiea Community Association Christmas Parade — From 8:30 a.m.-noon, starting at Pearlridge Elementary School parking lot, to Moanalua Road, to Kaamilo Street, to Ulune Street, to Halewiliko Street, and ending at Aiea Sugar Mill site.

Dec. 10, Waimanalo Christmas Parade — From 10-11 a.m., starting at Waimanalo District Park, to Hihimanu Street, to Kumuhau Street, to Humuniki Street, to Kalaniana'ole Highway, and ending at Waimanalo Beach Park. A Marine Corps color guard and fire truck will be in the parade. Call 768-3888 or e-mail pteruya@honolulu.gov.

Dec. 10, West Oahu Holiday Electric Light Parade — From 6-8 p.m., starts at Kapolei Fairgrounds at Kealanani Avenue, to Farrington Highway, to Kamokila Boulevard, left into Uluohia Street and finishes at Kapolei Hale (City Hall).

Dec. 17, Ewa Beach/Lions Club Holiday Parade — From 10 a.m.-noon, starting by Ilima School parking lot to Fort Weaver Road, to Kuhina Street, to Hanakahi Street, and ending at Ilima Intermediate School parking lot.

- Dec. 17, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Dec. 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Operation Best Wishes — Military personnel and families can create a free, 10-minute holiday webcast message to family members back home or deployed loved ones, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Dec. 16, Hawaiian Telecom Federal Credit Union, 1129 Wright Ave., Building 102, WAAF. Sessions are limited; register today at www.operationbest-wishes.com. Call 624-9801.

Salvation Army Angel Tree — Select an angel from the tree and fulfill the wish of a child or senior citizen in need by purchasing a requested gift and returning it unwrapped, with the lower portion of the card, to the Angel Tree. Locations follow:
 •Windward Mall: Through Dec. 16, 1 to 8 p.m., Theater Wing, upper level.
 •Pearlridge Center: During mall hours

through Dec. 19, Uptown, first level fronting Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour.

17 / Saturday
Pancake Breakfast with Santa — Military keiki can have breakfast with Santa, 9-11 a.m., Dec. 17, Armed Services YMCA, Building 122, 1262 Santos Dumont, WAAF. Cost is \$5 and includes a photo with Santa and a gift; keiki and babies up to 4 years old, free; adults, \$3.

"Merriest Hawaiian Christmas" — The Honolulu Boy Choir presents its annual concert, Dec. 17, Central Union Church, 1660 S. Beretania St., Honolulu. Doors open at 6:30 p.m; concert starts at 7 p.m. No admission charge. Prelude music by the St. Louis School Band. Color guard presentation by U.S. Marine Forces Pacific. Open to the public. Visit www.honoluluboychoir.org and click on "Upcoming Events."

Worship Services

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

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

Buddhist Services

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

Catholic Mass

•Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
 •Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF and FD
 •Sunday services:
 - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
 -10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 -11 a.m. at TAMC
 •Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m.TAMC

Gospel Worship

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

Islamic Prayers and Study

•Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
 •Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
 •Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

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

Pagan (Wicca)

•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

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

Single Soldiers' Bible Study

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

Worship Service

•Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the MOVIES

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Memorial Theater

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



Puss in Boots

(PG)

Fri., Dec. 9, 6 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 10, 4 p.m.
 Sun., Dec. 11, 2 p.m.
 Wed., Dec. 14, 7 p.m.

Paranormal Activity

(R)

Fri., Dec. 9, 8:30 p.m.



In Time

(PG-13)

Sat., Dec. 10, 7 p.m.

Johnny English

(PG)

Thurs., Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

Calendar abbreviations

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

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

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

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

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Native Hawaiian Liaison Office hosts Blue Star Card families

Story and Photo by
VICKEY MOUZÉ
Acting Managing Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Two dozen middle school students filed onto the stage; the girls’ long blue muumuus gently swayed. The lone two boys wore matching Aloha shirts. All watched for the signal to begin singing. Nola Nahulu, also wearing a blue muumuu, stood in front of the group and motioned it was time to start. Voices then filled the Nehelani, here, with angelic sounds.

Nahulu, director of the Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, or HYOC, led her young charges through a musical journey, here, Dec. 2, at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s annual Christmas party for spouses and children of deployed Soldiers.

“Our first selection (‘avec garde le montante’) is in French, but set in Seville, and is from the opera ‘Carmen.’ They play the street children who imitate a group of marching soldiers,” Nahulu explained.

The HYOC’s repertoire – sung in a variety of languages, including French, Hawaiian, English and Chinese – included operatic selections, traditional Hawaiian songs and hapa haole, or mixed English and Hawaiian songs.

The hapa haole song “Mele Kalikimaka,” or “Merry Christmas,” was the most popular selection. Audience members, glancing at sheet music, sang along with the help of chorus members who walked out into the audience.

After the performance, chorus members sat at their assigned tables for dinner. In between bites of prime rib, they answered ques-



An ensemble from the HYOC sings and performs a hula at the Aha Aina Christmas program at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks, Dec. 2. They sang in French, Hawaiian, English and Chinese.

tions from the audience.

Thorin Jean, who attended the event with her mom, Chriztina, wanted to know how many hours a week they practice.

“We practice on Thursdays from 3:45-6:15 p.m.,” said Trisha Hirano, 14. “Then we practice on Saturdays, too.”

Hawaiian Culture

To learn more about upcoming Native Hawaiian events, email nhliaison@gmail.com or call 655-9694.

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

Trisha, who attends Mid-Pacific Institute in Manoa, said she’s been in the chorus for as long as she remembers.

“We all grew up together,” she said, “and we’re like family.”

About 200 kindergartners through high school seniors are members and perform in age-based ensembles. Besides performing in operas, they sing in festivals in places such as Europe.

Organized by the Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, the event was the latest quarterly Aha Aina, or feast.

Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, and the evening’s host, said that the Native Hawaiian Liaison Office performs an important function within the garrison. He said that the office is instrumental in strengthening cultural understanding and building friendships between the Army in Hawaii and the native Hawaiian community.

Mulbury recognized the children in the audience whose parents are deployed.

“We remember them and include them every night in our prayers,” he said.

IPC to host Hawaiian-style Christmas party

ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Celebrate a Hawaiian-style Christmas with Island Palm Communities at the Kalakaua Community Center, here, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 21.

Something will be available for everyone who attends. Residents can watch classic holiday movies on a 17-foot high screen under the stars. Keiki can share last-minute Christmas wishes with IPC’s Hawaiian Santa.

Keiki can also look forward to making festive make ‘n take holiday crafts and decorating cupcakes.

Everyone can vote for winners of IPC’s Christmas stocking and wreath display contest.

Residents are reminded to bring a camera to capture fun memories with family and friends.

To help celebrate this season of giving, all residents are also encouraged to bring a couple of canned food items that will be provided to families in need.

Families bringing a donation will be entered into a prize drawing.

Hawaii Holiday Ohana

RSVP by Dec. 18 on the “Events” page at www.Facebook.com/IslandPalmCommunities or email RSVP@ipchawaii.com.

The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Religious Support Office will offer the following holiday services:

South Community

- Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel*
Dec. 24, 4 p.m., Children’s Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 24, 6 p.m., Christmas Eve Service (Protestant)
Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m., Christmas Service (Protestant & Gospel combined)
Jan. 1, 10:30 a.m., New Year’s Eve Service (Protestant & Gospel combined)
- Fort DeRussy Chapel*
(Across the street from the Hale Koa Hotel, Waikiki)
Dec. 25, 9 a.m., Christmas Service (Protestant)
Jan. 1, 5 p.m., New Year’s Eve Mass (Catholic)
- Tripler Army Medical Center*
Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Vigil Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Protestant)
Dec. 25, 9 a.m., Christmas Service (Protestant)

Dec. 25, 11 a.m., Christmas Mass (Catholic)
Jan. 1, 11a.m., New Year’s Day Mass (Catholic)

North Community

- Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel*
Dec. 15, 6 p.m., Family Night Caroling (Protestant)
Dec. 18, 7 p.m., Wiccan Yule Celebration (Pagan)
Dec. 19, 6 p.m., Christmas Concert (Protestant)
Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Christmas Children’s Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Candlelight Service (Protestant)
Dec. 25, 9 a.m., Christmas Service (Protestant)
Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m., Christmas Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 25, 12 noon, Christmas Service (Gospel)

Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Watch Night Service (Gospel)

- Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel*
Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m., Reconciliation Service (Catholic)
Dec. 24, 10 p.m., Christmas Vigil Mass (Catholic)
Dec. 25, 9 a.m., Christmas Service (Liturgical)
Dec. 31, 5 p.m., New Year’s Eve Mass (Catholic)
- Soldiers Chapel*
Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Service (Liturgical)
- Helemano Military Reservation Chapel*
Dec. 24, 4 p.m., Christmas Caroling (Protestant)
Dec. 24, 6 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Protestant)
Dec. 25, 10 a.m., Christmas Service (Protestant)

Dedication to karate builds character, brings rewards

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HONOLULU — Respect, self-discipline, humility and work ethic; these are the four fundamentals that the International Karate Federation, or IKF, instills in each of its students.

These four principles are what helped Sgt. Randal Kumagai, military intelligence noncommissioned officer, 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, win four medals during the 52nd All-Hawaii State Karate Championships at Manoa Valley District Park, here, Nov. 26.

The tournament featured more than 600 competitors from more than 20 schools from all over the world. Kumagai earned three gold medals in the “Over 35” categories of long weapons: in kata, which is a Japanese word that describes detailed choreographed patterns of movements; and in kumite, which means sparring. He earned one silver medal in the “Over 18” category of kumite.

“My new dojo (school) expects us to compete, so we can see where we rank among our peers, but I like the aspect of bowing in with someone that you have never met,” he said. “Going (hand-to-hand) and seeing who comes out on top is a good test of spirit.”

Although this tournament was Kumagai’s first while being a member of the IKF, he is not a stranger to karate and martial arts.

“Prior to (joining) the Army, I reached first-degree black belt in a different style, but since coming to Hawaii, I have started over in a new style,” he said.

The four years he spent studying the Matsubayashi-ryu style of karate has helped expedite his achievement of blue belt in his current style of karate, Shito-ryu, he said.

For the past four months, Kumagai has been going to workout at his dojo six days a week.

“My past experience helped me out a little bit,” he added. “Sometimes the mind can understand, but it just takes a while for the body to catch up.”

Kumagai’s accomplishments during the past four years have done more for him than just win medals, he said. The discipline that comes from the training is invaluable to him in the Army and life in general.

“It’s more than just kicking, punching and blocking,” Kumagai said. “There’s a bushido (or way of the warrior) culture that has always appealed to me.”

And, of course, there is the fighting.



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Randal Kumagai, MI NCO, 8th STB, 8th TSC, displays the trophy that he won at the 52nd All Hawaii State Karate-Do Championships at Manoa Valley District Park, Nov. 26.

“Although I started training in karate to gain the indomitable karate spirit and cultivate the character that comes along with training, as well as for its cultural ties, it is still a martial art. There is also the desire to be proficient at empty-hand combat,” he said.

The Army puts a strong emphasis on Soldiers being able to disable an enemy without the use of a weapon.

“To me it is just a given that every Soldier should be proficient at fighting,” Kumagai added.

Anyone of any age could benefit from all the lessons that karate has taught Kumagai, whether they are physical or mental.

“It’s all about how you handle yourself,” he said. “It’s not so much to win or lose, but the manner in which you present yourself.”