

INSIDE

Sergeant starts SADD program on post



Air and water

3rd BCT Soldiers take to the sky and hit the ice.

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Sgt. Kerrilee Fowler | 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC

Pfc. James Florence (left), FSC, 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, prepares to put a pie in the face of Command Sgt. Maj. Roy Ward, 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, during a SADD fundraiser at Schofield Barracks.

SGT. 1ST CLASS DAVID WHEELER
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — It's 1:40 a.m., on a Saturday when Sgt. Kerrilee Fowler, operations noncommissioned officer, Forward Support Company, 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, awakes to the sound of her cell phone.

The voice on the other end is a Soldier who tells her that he went out drinking and doesn't want to drive home drunk. Without hesitation, Fowler writes down the address, gets in her car and picks up the Soldier.

This might sound like a normal occurrence for a leader, but Fowler isn't in the Soldier's chain-of-command. In fact, the Soldier isn't even in her same unit and she has never met him before. But for Fowler, this happens every weekend and she is more than happy to answer the call.

"Sgt. Fowler mentioned that she wanted to start a Soldiers Against Drunk Driving (SADD) program while we were in Mosul, Iraq," said 1st Sgt. Pete Leao, FSC, 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde. "As history tells us, drunk driving is a major offense, especially among Soldiers returning from a deployment."

With the blessing of her chain-of-command, Fowler started a SADD program, here, in March.

"It gives Soldiers the opportunity to reach out for help — (for) free — with no repercussions from the chain-of-command," Fowler said. "It allows leaders

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Right Arm Night

3rd BCT faces off against the 500 MI Bde. in tug-of-war.

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Republic of Korea Air Force air defenders visit Fort Shafter

Story and Photo by
MAJ. PATRICK HUSTED
94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command teamed up with Republic of Korea Air Force Air Defense Artillery Command to plant a Hawaiian Koa tree, at the 94th AAMDC Headquarters, here, Sept. 17, as a symbol of their strong alliance and growing partnership.

The tree planting ceremony was the finale to the ROKAF ADA delegates' visit with the 94th AAMDC, which began Sept. 15. During the visit, senior ADA leaders from the 94th AAMDC and the ROKAF attended numerous briefings, to include command briefings from each of the respective commands, as well as a command briefing from Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific.

ROK's visiting officials included Maj. Gen. Meong Kook Kweon, commanding general, ROKAF ADA.

During the visit, both commands discussed future joint defensive operations, training exercise improvements and objectives and other insights on their partnership in defense of South Korea and the Pacific region.

Since both commands recently took part in Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2010 — an annual exercise used to evaluate and improve combined and joint coordination, procedures, plans and systems necessary for the conduct of contingency

SEE 94th, A-6



Brig. Gen. Jeffery Underhill (left) and Maj. Gen. Meong Kook Kweon, commanding generals, 94th AAMDC and ROKAF ADA, respectively, plant a Koa tree, Sept. 17, at Fort Shafter.

Rising stars

Finalists compete for the top spot in the "Operation Rising Star" singing competition.

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North Town Hall

Community members gather with senior leadership.

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Russian teens from the Selisakh Youth Camp show their aloha for the 25th ID Band. The 25th ID Band is the first U.S. military band to perform on Sakhalin Island, Russia.

25th ID Tropic Lightning Band entertains in China, Russia

Story and Photo by
MASTER SGT. JIM GUZIOR
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SAKHALIN ISLAND, Russia — History was made — not once but twice — as the 25th Infantry Division "Tropic Lightning" Band traveled to Shanghai, China, and then to Sakhalin Island, Russia, to perform during an international

community relations mission for the Army and U.S. Pacific Command, recently.

For the band's stop in Shanghai, they performed for high school and elementary students at the Shanghai Community International School, and then answered a variety of questions from the students on topics ranging from

military service to music.

"The students here have never seen a professional band, so this performance gave the children a chance to see what they are learning to do right now," said Mindy Ruskovich, a teacher at the school.

The following day, the band

SEE 25th, A-3

ARC Platoon hosts CBRN-threat exercise

Story and Photo by
PFC. MARCUS FICHTL
8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs,
8th Theater Sustainment Command

BARKING SANDS, Kauai — Soldiers from the Active Response Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear, or ARC, Platoon responded to a call for support from

the Pacific Missile Range Facility Federal Fire Department, here, as part of an exercise where they found a lab creating an unknown chemical agent, Sept. 13.

After some preliminary on-scene analysis by the ARC Platoon, 71st Chemical Company, 8th Military Police Brigade, 8th

Theater Sustainment Command, it looked like they stumbled onto a mustard-gas lab. The infamous chemical weapon was first used in World War I, and was named for the mustard-colored blisters it would form on patient's bodies as

SEE ARC, A-7

Regimental Week celebrates the 150th birthday of the Signal Corps

Story and Photo by
LIANA MAYO
311th Signal Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Signal Regimental Week took place Sept. 14-17, at several locations throughout Oahu, and was hosted by the 311th Signal Command, here.

The weeklong series of events was attended by key leaders of the signal community and provided many opportunities to network and communicate about current operations, recent accomplishments and the unique challenges and complexities of the signal mission.

The week began with the Regimental Address at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks, Sept. 14. Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Clark, Signal Regimental Corps, began his address with a moving presentation of the poem, "Ragged Old Flag."

He provided a detailed briefing on the state of the Signal Regt., where he urged leaders to utilize the regiment's LandWarNet e-University, which provides online communications and training, as well as web-based tools and information.

"This is your site, we have folks adding to it right now, based on what units have requested," Clark said, about the site that allows Soldier and civilian signaleers to conduct simulated events and collaborative discussions with their peers and Fort Gordon, Ga., subject matter experts.

Brig. Gen. William Scott, commander, 311th Signal Command, also addressed the leaders in attendance.

"The question to ask ourselves, is are we producing an effect that will positively impact the Warfighter's ability to conduct business more efficiently, regardless

of location?" Scott asked.

He also commended the Soldiers and civilians of the 311th for the many crucial jobs done well in order to deliver a robust, reliable network to warfighters throughout the Pacific theater.

A focal point of the week for senior signal leadership was a planning and coordination conference Sept. 15-16, at Fort Shafter's Richardson Theatre, which was attended by key members of U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Army-Pacific and signal-focused government organizations, including the Defense Information Systems Agency, which provides global Net-Centric solutions for warfighter support.

Several hundred 311th Soldiers gathered on Fort Shafter's Palm Circle before dawn, Sept. 15, to participate in the annual USARPAC run, led by Maj. Gen.

Benjamin Mixon, commander, USARPAC.

All 311th Soldiers stationed in Hawaii attended, to carry on the annual tradition of singing cadence and running together in the lightly falling rain. Mixon was also the guest speaker for a prayer breakfast at the Hale Ikena Golf Course Clubhouse, Sept. 16.

During a ceremony in the 516th Signal Brigade conference room at Fort Shafter, Sept. 16, five civilians of the 311th Sig. Command were recognized for their commitment to excellence and were sworn in as representatives for the Enterprise Service Management Framework.

The ESMF is an information technology management system the 311th Signal Command and the 516th Signal Bde.

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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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Nondelivery or distribution problems in Army Hawaii Family Housing areas? If so, call 656-3155 or 656-3488.

162 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 9/23/10.

Ask the Garrison Commander!

Mulbury addresses community-wide issues

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

In a previous edition of "Ask the Garrison Commander," I talked about the importance of customer feedback to our garrison and how the Interactive Customer Evaluation system, or ICE, is an excellent way of telling garrison service providers if we're meeting your needs.

Another community forum is the Installation Action Council, or IAC. This council is formed by service and family member representatives from each major command, garrison directors and other senior leaders who are subject matter experts, and I chair the council.

The purpose of the council is to consider and prioritize issues and concerns that broadly impact our local military community. The council is not intended to address individual problems, those are better served through the ICE system. Rather, the intent is for council members to hear issues that affect our entire community.

At the last council meeting in August, several issues were discussed. I'd like to share some of those issues with you.

Child care and teen issues:
1. Can child care be provided at the gyms so that parents can work out?

A: Child, Youth and School Services and the Kids-on-Site program, formerly Short Term Alternative Child Care, offer an hourly, child care program for parents while they work out at the local gyms. The service is at the CYSS Outreach Building, Schofield Barracks, and runs 8-11 a.m., Monday through Friday. Children must be registered with CYSS. The cost is \$4 per hour, and it's free for Blue Star Card holders. Call 655-8628.

2. Computers at the teen centers are old and need updating.

A: The Teen Center at Schofield will be moving to the Bennet Youth Center in the very near future. Once the move occurs, the computers will be replaced with brand new units.

3. The unavailability of child care causes difficulty for Soldiers with dependents.

A: Additional Child Development Centers are scheduled to be built from now through fiscal year 2011,

for both Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. A new School Age Center opened on Schofield Barracks in June, and includes a before-and-after school program. A new CDC for children up to 5 years old will open in January 2011, and a school age/teen center at Fort Shafter will open during the first quarter of 2011.

Construction, maintenance and road repair issues:
4. There appears to be an excessive amount of potholes around our installations.

A: The Directorate of Public Works is actively addressing road conditions throughout our garrison. An extensive plan is in place throughout the next year that will address street repair issues. A schedule of road closures and construction can be accessed on the garrison website, www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil, under "Post Information" and "Traffic Updates."

5. Parking at the Hale Kula Elementary School is very limited and needs expanding.

A: Part of the parking area near the Hale Kula Elementary School is the property of the Department of Education. Part of it, however, belongs to the garrison. U.S. Army Garrison-Oahu and DPW will make an assessment of the area to determine which area is under the control of the garrison, and if improvements can be made to increase parking, such as paving and striping. More on this issue will follow.

6. The air conditioner at Fort Shafter Bowling Alley is not working. The bowling alley is hot and uncomfortable for both customers and employees.

A: The air conditioning unit has been identified for repair. DPW is currently awaiting prioritization and funding so that repairs can be completed. More on this issue will follow.

7. When coming from the intersection of Waianae and Heard avenues on Schofield Barracks, drivers can't go straight across Foote Avenue to Soldiers Chapel or on towards the bowling alley. This hinders traffic.

A: DPW performed a traffic assessment of this area. There are three streets that intersect: Heard



Mulbury

Avenue, Foote Avenue and Trimble Road, as well as access points in and out of parking areas. DPW has concluded that changing the traffic pattern would cause the formation of a five-way intersection, creating undue safety hazards and impeding traffic flow.

Miscellaneous issues:
8. Army service members and families who are assigned to U.S. Pacific Command don't receive timely enough information from the garrison.

A: The PACOM Army Element commander has been added to the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii community bulletin distribution list to facilitate improved information flow to PACOM Army personnel and their families. Additionally, PACOM will be invited to attend all town hall meetings, as well as the IAC.

9. Individuals who volunteer on post are hindered from performing a full-range of duties because they are not entitled to a Common Access Card to access government network computers.

A: The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has been participating in a pilot program to allow volunteers CACs for computer use only. The program has not yet been successful because of the necessity of security clearances, which can be a lengthy process. This issue impacts more than just the volunteers here in Army Hawaii, therefore, it will be forwarded to the 2011 Army Family Action Plan conference for consideration.

These are only a small sample of the issues that were addressed recently at the IAC. A log of all issues can be accessed on the garrison website. If there are issues you would like to offer for consideration, you can submit them on the garrison website or via e-mail. I urge you all to stay involved with our community and participate in the many forums that are offered by the garrison. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcomed.

To submit an "Ask the Commander" question, send an e-mail to AskTheCommander.usaghi@us.army.mil. For more information, call Ophelia Isreal (655-9033) at Customer Management Services.

Straight Talk

Contract security guards secure their last gate on post

LT. COL. DANIEL HULSEBOSCH
Director, Directorate of Emergency Services

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Directorate of Emergency Services has been training new Department of the Army Security Guards, or DASGs, to take over the security guard contract for our gates.

The DES ran seven, four-weeklong training academies during the last six months. As of Sept. 15, the transition was complete, with the last contracted guard relinquishing his post to the new DASG at McNair Gate on Schofield Barracks. The DES will ultimately have 120 new DASGs.



Hulsebosch

Right now, there are 90 fully-trained and working DASGs, with another 30 completing training by the end of October. DES will have enough guards to start conducting random anti-terrorism measures, or RAM, at the open housing area gates by the end of October. When we start our RAM patrols, our housing areas will have guards for a good portion of the day.

There will be enough manpower to have one full-time patrol in each area of operation, North and South. The RAM patrols will rotate between the gates of their housing areas. For the North, that means the DASGs will split their time between Helemano Military Reservation and Mendonca Park. In the South, they will split their time between the front and rear gates of the Aliamanu Military Reservation and the gate to Red Hill. This will give all of our housing areas substantial gate coverage, which is something we have not been able to do for many years.

iWATCH program
A few months ago, the Army launched a new program called iWATCH. This program focuses on an individual watching for any suspicious activity on the installation and calling it in to the police. This program can be a very effective tool for our police, as the police can't be everywhere and they don't see everything the community members do. Calls of suspicious activity should be directed to Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter Military Police Stations at 655-7114 and 438-7114, respectively.

Anonymous crime tips program
Community members may submit anonymous crime tips to MP stations. To submit a text message tip through a personal cell phone: (1) type "TIP730" and provide your tip information (e.g., John Doe stole a plasma TV from 123 Main Street); (2) type "crimes" (or the numbers 274637) in the "to" line; and (3) hit "send."

To submit a tip via a computer: (1) go to www.tipsubmit.com/start.htm; (2) enter country and state information, and select either Schofield or Shafter from the pull-down screens; (3) provide as much tip information as you have; and (4) click on "submit tip."

Tipsters are given an alias to allow for anonymous two-way communication, should the MP station require more information.

Continue to report emergencies by dialing 911 or contacting the Schofield and Shafter MP stations at 655-7114 and 438-7114.



Community members could learn a lot from childlike faith, beliefs

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) SHANE SMITH
3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment,
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

Speaking as a parent of two young toddlers, I just love children's take on certain things, especially God. For example, elementary children were asked to complete the sentence; "By faith, I know that God is..."

Here are some of their responses:
"Forgiving, because he forgave in the Bible and he forgave me when I went in the road on my bike without one of my parents."

"Providing, because he dropped manna for Moses and the people, and he gave my dad a job."

"Caring, because he made the blind

man see and he made me catch a very fast line drive that could have hurt me. He probably sent an angel down."

"Merciful, because my brother has been nice to me for a year."

"Faithful, because the school bill came and my mom didn't know how we were going to pay for it. Two minutes later, my dad called and he just got a bonus check. My mom was in tears."

"Sweet, because he gave me a dog.

(Plus) God tells me not to do things that are bad. I need someone like that."

Indeed, we find out exactly what God is like through the thoughts of children. It brings to mind the passage from Mark's Gospel where the disciples forbade the children from going to see Jesus. His reply underscores the spiritual insight of kids.

According to Mark 10: 13-16, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you: Whoever does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. After taking them in his arms, he laid his hands on them and blessed them."

What this passage teaches us, is that if we are to be in right relationship with him, then we must approach him the same way that the children did – unassuming and without conditions. All the children quoted in the above statements realize that God loves them immensely and provides for their every need.

The children realized that God would never leave their side, even when life goes bad, and that life with him is joyful and not the cosmic joy-killer that a lot of adults think Jesus is.

The next time that you look at your children, remember this story from the gospel of Mark and examine your own life in light of it. I think you will be blessed by childlike faith.



Smith

Voices of Ohana



"Superwoman, because she's the most equivalent to Superman."

Elaine Akikoshimozono
Contractor, visual information, TAMC



"The Incredible Hulk. He is just strong. I want to be strong."

Patrol Officer Derrick Bournes
Provost Marshall office, TAMC



"Batwoman, because she is classy."

Jennifer Gimbrone
Military Spouse



"Wonder Woman. She always worked for good. She righted things that were wrong, she had a cool costume and she could fly."

Col. Teresa Parsons
Assistant deputy commander, nursing, TAMC



"Spiderman. He is an ordinary guy who finds himself in unusual situations and he uses that to become a better person and to help other people."

Cmdr. Christopher Sapsis
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

2-14th CAV conducts combined air assault with Kurds, Iraqis

1ST LT. JOSEPH LEWANDOWSKI
2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment,
2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

DIYALA PROVINCE, Iraq — The 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, took extreme pride in its first air assault of Operation New Dawn with the Combined Security Forces on Ruins Island, in the Hamrin Lake, here, Sept. 4.

This sense of pride was ingrained on the determined faces of the CSF – consisting of the Iraqi army and the Peshmerga, or Kurdish fighters – as they conducted the first rehearsal for a combined air assault operation.

First Lt. Mathew Cauda and Staff Sgt. Michael Austin, both of 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, provided the CSF with quality on-the-job-training by demonstrating and briefing the operations order along with troop leading procedures.

The IA and Peshmerga were eager to get hands-on training, and maintained an attentive stance as they encircled the terrain model for the operations order brief and a full dress rehearsal.

In the midday heat, all practiced loading and unloading the helicopter mock-ups, including individual body placement and ground movement. Like every good rehearsal, it was conducted continu-

ously until everyone felt comfortable with his or her individual responsibilities, and then – they rehearsed some more. As day became night, the air assault team completed preparations for the upcoming early morning mission.

At first light, the sound of helicopter blades slicing through the air initiated an influx of adrenaline through the veins of each and every person waiting to board those birds. The helicopters touched down at Forward Operating Base Cobra, and the CSF lines began loading the UH-60s. The 15-minute flight to the island was filled with anticipation of what to expect when the wheels touched down.

Just as rehearsed, the CSF exited the aircraft upon landing on the island and immediately secured the landing area for the remaining lifts. Once all forces arrived on the island, they began the clearing operation and cache search. With metal detectors in hand, the CSF scanned and searched the entire island to no avail.

Even though the operation concluded without identifying a cache site, it was a huge success as it provided the CSF an opportunity to conduct a full-scale exercise. The IA and Peshmerga were an integral part of the entire operational process that allowed them to practice the techniques, tactics and procedures received from the U.S. forces.



Courtesy of 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cavalry Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID

The IA; Kurdish 3rd Regional Guard Bde.; and 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID; conduct rehearsals on helicopter mock-ups to understand individual missions for an upcoming air assault operation, Sept. 4, at FOB Cobra.



Brandon D. Bolick | 982nd Signal Company, Combat Camera

1-21st Inf. helps clean up Iraqi school

DIYALA PROVINCE, Iraq — Spc. Alan Davenport and Pfc. Josh Calla, both with Company A, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, paint school walls, here, Sept. 4. Iraqi forces and U.S. Soldiers supplied materials and manual labor to help clean and paint the school.

25th: Division band makes history

CONTINUED FROM A-1

was the first U.S. military band to play at the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai. At their first performance, hundreds gathered to listen to the division’s band play some traditional American songs. The crowd danced and clapped to the band’s Dixieland music. After the performance, the band took photos with expo patrons and shared the aloha spirit.

“Music is a language that needs no translation,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joseph Parenteau, commander and conductor, 25th ID Band. “We’re putting forth programs that are fun and entertaining. The band helps put a human face on the Army and lets an international audience ... get up close and personal (to) see and talk to an American Soldier.”

The band was the grand finale in a two-mile parade route through the streets of the expo. Led by a 25th ID Army color guard, the band marched and played for thousands along the pa-

rade route, as patrons scrambled to get pictures and followed alongside the division band.

“This is just amazing,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jovan Velasquez, color guard leader, 25th ID Headquarters and Headquarters Company. “These people are standing in line just to get pictures with an American Soldier. I’m still in shock that I just carried our nation’s flag down the streets of Shanghai, China, at the World Expo ... (it’s) just historic.”

History was about to be made again, as the band was the first U.S. military band to perform in this part of Russia and the first to participate in a ceremony 65 years in the making.

Russia proclaims every Sept. 3, as Victory Day for Russia, to celebrate the end of World War II and the beginning of peace. However, in Sakhalin, this annual celebration and commemoration just never took place, until this year.

“During World War II, the U.S. and Soviet forces worked together, so it was

truly fitting for us to work together again for this festival,” said Patricia Miller, Sakhalin U.S. consulate general. “The whole brass band and concert band – everyone seemed to enjoy every aspect of it.”

The band performed in Kholmsk and Aniva, and also for a youth camp at Selisakh where the teenage crowd danced, howled and rushed the stage.

“I saw the shiny eyes and smiles of the young people here, and that was the best sign for me that this concert was successful,” said Bordenis Osidulov, the youth camp director.

The Russian Central Orchestra of the Ministry of Defense Band and the 25th ID Band also performed a concert for hundreds of citizens of Sakhalin.

“Russian and American military musicians standing side by side, making music together ... really that is what the entire trip was about – using music as a bridge to connect people of different cultures.” said Sgt. Robert Carmical, 25th ID bandsman.

The end of OIF brings a “new dawn” to Iraq, redefines 2nd BCT mission, mindset

COL. MALCOLM FROST
Commander, 2nd Brigade Combat Team,
25th Infantry Division

DIYALA, Iraq — As the sun came up, here, Sept. 1, the day looked no different from Aug. 31. The new dawn does not mean a light switched on or off in Iraq. This day did not mark a change from black to white. I view the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the beginning of Operation New Dawn through several lenses that appear as shades of gray over time. The transition from OIF to OND reflects seven and a half years of combat, struggle and sacrifice, lows and highs, the abyss of failure and the surge of success.

The transition to OND means all those who have ever served in Iraq can feel a sense of pride in bringing this day about.

The Iraqis taking the lead in fighting the insurgency is a monumental achievement.

Many remember the dark early days of the surge. Today,

attacks are down more than 90 percent and the Iraqis are responsible for managing their own security. Attacks are down more than 50 percent here in northern Iraq, in the past year alone.

These facts were dreams just a few short years ago. Step back for a moment to see the truth in the context of staggering progress, reduction in threats and great successes that have occurred through the efforts of U.S. Soldiers and the Iraqi security forces.

There has been much talk about the difference between combat brigades and advise-and-assist brigades.

The brigade that I command today has the same combat and combat-support Soldiers who have served multiple tours in Afghanistan and Iraq in the past nine years. Vice President Joseph Biden Jr. recently said



Frost

the AABs in Iraq are “as combat-ready as any in our military.”

What makes us an AAB is defined by changes in our training, mission, mindset and capabilities. Instead of being focused on combat operations, our primary mission is now to conduct stability operations and civil security.

We have been moving in this direction for years. This mission involves providing for the safety of the Iraqi population, including protection from internal and external threats.

We support, advise, assist, train and equip the ISF, who have full responsibility for security in Iraq. Additionally, as the U.S. military takes the backseat to diplomatic efforts, we support the U.S. Department of State Provincial Reconstruction Teams, as they

advise and work with local and regional Iraqi governments in civil capacity, economics and governance.

Iraq can still be a dangerous place. Every once in a while, a devious enemy avoids confrontation and prefers to “hit and run.” This has happened a few times to the brigade I command, including the first U.S. Soldier deaths since Sept. 1. No doubt, there will be more casualties in the future – it is

simply the nature of this environment right now. Every instance of a U.S. Soldier wounded and killed is tragic, difficult to understand and impossible to put into perspective, but this is the nature of our service to the nation.

This is why our task here continues to be so important.

We must continue to support the Iraqis as they close the aperture on the insurgent’s hopes and capabilities.

The weight of responsibility is great, and we must follow through to the very finish. We must close the U.S. military mission in Iraq with honor and dignity for ourselves and all of our predecessors, and do all we can to ensure the partnership between the United States and Iraq endures for decades.

(Editor’s Note: This article was printed by permission of the author and was first printed in The Washington Times, Sept. 14.)

Warriors receive comic relief on deployment

Deployed Forces

Story and Photo by
SPC. ROBERT M. ENGLAND
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARHORSE, Iraq — Laughter filled the Faulkenberg Theater, here, and echoed off the thin wooden walls, as the man on stage spouted jokes about the humorous aspects of his relationship with his wife, the late-night menu at Taco Bell and Justin Timberlake. His witty punch lines had the crowd in an uproar, granting him a thunderous round of applause at the end of his routine.

Derek Vana, a stand-up comedian, was part of a comic trio that toured several FOBs in Iraq during the month of September, putting on shows for Soldiers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, for the sole purpose of entertaining troops and helping them enjoy an evening, despite being deployed.

Lone Wolf Entertainment, an entertainment booking company, hired Vana, Scott White and Bill Dykes to come to Iraq to provide comic relief to deployed soldiers. The three comedians submitted tapes of their routines to the entertainment agency, and after review, Lone Wolf Entertainment booked them for the tour.

Dykes said he enjoys performing for deployed troops. He is a veteran of Iraq, as his passport would indicate, and a FOB Warhorse alumnus.

“Our whole reason for coming out here

was the Soldiers,” Dykes said. “It’s definitely not for the sight-seeing.”

When the comedians are not performing for troops, they do the same thing stateside for their civilian audiences – minus the body armor and Blackhawk helicopter transportation. Though

their duties are not as life threatening, the comics can relate to Soldiers, as their jobs often require them to travel. Each of them deals with separation from family and friends as Soldiers do, but on a much smaller scale.

“It’s not so hard for me being away, because

my wife and I are used to text messages, phone calls, e-mails (and) stuff like that,” Vana said. “The accessibility in the states is really easy, I can always text her (and) call her.”

Dykes had a few words of encouragement for Soldiers experiencing difficulty with the separation from loved ones back in America.

“Despite the distance, people are still there with you; it’s hard to remember when that connection is so spaced out, but it’s still there,” he said. “You just have to value the fact that you have it and hold onto that.”

Vana served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1998 to 2001, and although he may not have served during Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom or New Dawn, he shed some light on the issue of separation from a different perspective.

“It’s almost as hard for families back home as it is for the Soldiers here,” he said. “Soldiers here have their family, their platoon, their company. For people back home, it might be just them (or) they just have their small group of friends.”

Soldiers filed out of the theater following the conclusion of the comics’ show, still laughing about various jokes told throughout the night. Despite the fact that being deployed is no laughing matter, Soldiers still managed to relax and enjoy themselves for an evening.



Bill Dykes (right), a comedian from Houston, exchanges a handshake with a 2nd BCT, 25th ID Soldier during an autograph signing at the Faulkenberg Theater on FOB Warhorse, Sept. 12. Dykes is part of a comic trio touring FOBs in Iraq during the month of September.

Iraqi security forces work together to keep insurgents out of city

Story and Photo by
SPC. JESSICA LUHRS
1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division

KIRKUK, Iraq — When Capt. Jeff Kain drove to the Mamah Iraqi Police Station near Hawijah, Iraq, to meet with the police chief for the first time, recently, he noticed something different about checkpoints, something that sets a new standard for all IP stations.

“While we were driving up, we noticed that the checkpoints were being manned by Iraqi police, Sons of Iraq and Iraqi army soldiers. This

is something that is not seen often and sets a standard for other stations,” said Kain, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

According to Col. Hameed Omar Abdullah, Mamah police chief, he began this initiative to show citizens that the Iraqi Security Forces are united, to provide better security in the area and keep the insurgents out.

He said that since the IP has been working with its ISF counterparts, the security has improved

in the area.

“Before the security was very bad, but now everything is good because we are doing what we can to keep the insurgents out,” Abdullah said, who has been with the IP for nearly 30 years.

To keep the insurgents out of the area, the IP frequently conduct patrols and other various operations with the ISF, in addition to manning their multiple checkpoints.

“We are responsible for our security now,” Abdullah said. “We will do whatever it takes to keep the insurgents out of our area.”



Col. Hameed Omar Abdullah (left), Mamah police chief, talks to Capt. Jeff Kain, commander, Co. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, during a meeting at the Mamah Iraqi Police Station near Hawijah, Iraq, recently.

3-7th FA practices sling-load operations for upcoming deployment

STAFF SGT. AMBER ROBINSON
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Eighty Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, gathered for elevator training, here, Sept. 13-14.

Batteries A and B completed the training in preparation for helicopter sling-load operations, which they will execute during their upcoming deployment next spring. For this elevator training, Soldiers prepared and hooked M119 A2 howitzers, the A22 load-bearing bag and other vehicles.

“These types of operations will help (our Soldiers) in their expected role of delivering supporting fires, for the maneuver commander, over extended distances and very formidable and mountainous terrain (that) can act as a barrier to effective fires,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Dale Perez, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT. “Training and perfecting our ability to move equipment and personnel using rotary wing aircraft provides us (with) many important capabilities, to include the ability to (fly over) obstacles and strike objectives in otherwise inaccessible areas.”

Both companies worked on the basics of sling-loading throughout the month of August.

“Soldiers worked on learning the proper commands for hooking up to the bird, how to hold on to the individual who is hook-



Courtesy of 3rd BCT, 25th ID

Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, evacuate a sling-load site after loading an M119 A2 howitzer to a Chinook helicopter, during elevator training, Sept. 13-14, on Wheeler Army Airfield.

ing up the load and hand and arm signals to direct the helicopter as they lower to pick up the load,” said Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hernandez, noncommissioned officer in charge, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT.

The brigade’s upcoming deployment to Afghanistan will be a

proving ground for the Soldiers who are new to the unit and those who are veterans.

“Ninety percent of the Soldiers who did this training have never done this before,” Hernandez said. “But even for the veterans, the training was a much-needed refresher. Many of our missions in Iraq during the last deployment were more infantry-style operations. We were unable to do certain (FA) things because the mission did not call for it, so we adapted.

“The mission in Afghanistan will allow us to apply a lot of our original skills, which the guys are really amped about,” Hernandez said. “Sling-loading and other artillery basics are perishable skills, so we are happy to be employing them and getting ready to go over and experience some success on deployment.”

The battalion hopes to continue to build on their recent training during future brigade-wide training missions.

“We definitely plan to incorporate this training in the future, hopefully on a broader scale,” Hernandez said.

Soldiers in the battalion are looking forward to employing the skills they’ve recently learned and building on these skills in the future.

“There has been a definite attitude change since we’ve done the elevator training,” Hernandez said. “The guys are excited about doing their job, getting over to Afghanistan and employing what they’ve learned.”

SADD: Volunteers make a difference

CONTINUED FROM A-1

(to have) the time to spend with their family and friends, and gives volunteers the satisfaction of making a difference in the lives of not only the Soldiers, but the whole community.”

Volunteers man two cell phones every Friday through Sunday, including holiday weekends, from 11 p.m.- 4 a.m. If a Soldier or spouse has been drinking and has no other choice but to drive home intoxicated, they can call SADD for a ride back to their house or barracks, with no repercussion.

“The program is not here to take Soldiers to the place they are going to drink, and it’s not for a bunch of Soldiers that plan on going out to party and have SADD in mind as their free ride back,” Fowler said. “The program is to help Soldiers make the right decision by choosing not to drink and drive.”

However, there are several problems that make it hard for SADD to reach its full potential.

Currently, the program only has eight volunteers. Since Fowler has opened the program to all of Schofield Barracks, manning the phone lines isn’t the only hindrance.

“There isn’t any special fund-

ing for the program,” Fowler said.

Currently the SADD program is being funded through donations and fundraisers. One of its biggest donations was \$100 given by a Solider from the 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde. The rest of the costs come out of the volunteer’s pockets.

“When this started, I used my

Call 377-0549 or 224-1907 if you need a SADD ride. Anyone interested in helping the SADD program can e-mail kerrilee.ross@us.army.mil.

own money to buy the two cell phones, a GPS and two buckets,” Fowler said, with a little laugh. “The buckets are really important because I don’t want anyone to ruin one of the volunteer’s cars.”

Along with donations and volunteers, Fowler is also looking for somewhere to create a SADD headquarters.

“Our program is looking for an empty office or room to use, so the volunteers have a place to go and hang out while they are waiting (for) Soldiers to call,” Fowler said. “I know we could get a lot more Soldiers willing to volunteer for this program if we had our own area.”

News Briefs

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

Today Town Hall — Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, will conduct two USAG-HI employee town hall meetings to provide updates and new garrison information.

- Sept. 24, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.
- Sept. 28, 1-2 p.m., Religious Activities Center, Fort Shafter.

Suicide Prevention Month — The Army Substance Abuse Program is concluding its recognition of Suicide Prevention Month by hosting the following events.

- Belinda Danielson, Hawaii State Access Line supervisor, will speak at Sgt. Smith Theater, Sept. 24, 10-11:30 a.m. Military personnel call 655-8322, and Army civilians call 655-6047.
- “Celebrate Life” is set for Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks. Each agency that provides a service to Soldiers, family members, retirees, Army civilians and contractors to help deter high-risk behavior is invited to set up an informational booth or other type of exhibit. Contact 655-4655.

Free Training — Apply for the free “Winning Through Customer Service” courses, offered through the U.S. Army Garri-

son-Hawaii’s Workforce Development Office. To register, send in a SF-182 “Authorization, Agreement and Certification of Training” application and UWSP supplemental form through your respective directorate training point of contact to stephanie.ponciano@us.army.mil. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis; courses are limited to 25 employees per class. Call 655-9032.

Soldiers Chapel — Help celebrate the Soldiers Chapel’s recent renovation by attending the rededication ceremony and open house celebration, Sept. 24, 4 p.m.

The chapel boasts a rare 1931 vintage pipe organ, one of only two of its kind in Hawaii. Call 655-9307.

Lane Closures — The resurfacing of Humphreys Road from Lyman Road to Kolekole Avenue runs through Oct. 15.

View a map and full details of road closures at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. Click on “Post Information” and then “Traffic Updates,” or call 656-2525.

28 / Tuesday WASP inventory — The Wheeler Ammunition Supply Point will close Sept. 29-Oct. 8, for the end of year 100 percent close-out inventory.

All units requiring munitions support for training during this time need to draw their required ammo by Sept. 28.

The Training Ammunition Vehicle Holding Area will be available for munitions storage during this time. Emergency issues will be handled on a case-by-case basis, and must be approved by the DOL Munitions Accountable Office, 656-1649, or the DOL Supply Branch Chief, 656-0817.

94th AAMDC hosts communications tabletop exercise

STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER J. ROBERTS
94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – Anthony Robins, advisor to American leaders, once said, “To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world, and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.”

The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command conducted a communications tabletop exercise at Fort Shafter Flats, Sept. 13-16. The exercise was facilitated by the Training and Doctrine Command Capabilities Manager – Lower Tier, or TCM-LT, and as part of the collaborative effort of a tabletop series of events between Air and Missile Defense Branch and Fires Center of Excellence and the Signal Center of Excellence.

The exercise brought together near-

ly 60 personnel from 15 different military organizations, both inside and outside the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility, at the action officer and planner level for the first ever AAMDC Communications TTX.

Brig. Gen. Jeffery Underhill, commanding general, 94th AAMDC, said the purpose of the exercise was to identify critical communications capabilities, which support engagement operations, and force operations to accomplish mission command for 2010-2015.

The unit served as the Deputy Area Air Defense commander, Theater Army Air and Missile Defense coordination, and commander of ADA brigades and formations.

The exercise focused on ways to identify AMD combined, joint and Army gaps; and doctrinal mitigation

procedures found in current Army, joint, theater and combined networks, specifically the Army AMD’s ability to keep pace and stay compatible with future LandWarNet / Warfighter Information Network-Tactical or digital capabilities in the near future.

Col. Reynold Palaganas, assistant chief of staff, communications, 94th AAMDC, said the TTX’s methodology was to take a “snapshot” of selected joint-operational-area defense designs, from PACOM designated plans, during an operational phase.

This was the first of five major overarching TCM-LT tabletop objectives.

Additionally, the 94th highlighted the importance of building partnership capacity via theater security cooperation plans, and looked at what interoperability communications planning and coordination challenges it faced while

working with partners in a JOA environment.

The second objective of the exercise was recognizing the need to understand the ability of organic and theater communications support resources to meet requirements.

The third objective was to identify critical communications, interoperability and integration required capabilities, identify gaps and propose possible solutions for mitigating the gaps.

The fourth objective was for TCM-LT to use the 94th’s TTX results to leverage future battle lab experiments, which would test and validate proposed solutions or mitigation strategies.

The final objective was to input these findings to the AMD communications migration strategy for leadership review and action.

The TTX provided the 94th AAMDC with an opportunity to work through requests for information and update contingency planning documents.

The intent, according to Palaganas, “was to highlight a potential, deployable, high-capacity communications solution for enhancing AMD force operations and engagement operations by featuring these capabilities.”

He also noted the communications TTX was “very productive – an eye opener for all who participated.

“The information exchange and interaction in the working groups provided attendees (with) an invaluable insight and appreciation into the complexity of joint, interagency and multinational AMD communications support requirements and challenges, (and) planning and execution of multiple contingencies,” he said.

94th: Ceremony helps strengthen bonds

CONTINUED FROM A-1

operations joint forces in defense of the ROK – this proved a great time for both commands to complete a combined after-action-review of the exercise.

As Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Underhill, commanding general, 94th AAMDC, noted during his opening remarks, “In the Hawaiian language, koa means brave, bold, fearless or warrior.

“It is only fitting then, that the tree we are planting today is a Koa tree, as we are all warriors; brave, bold and fearless in the duties we perform together,” he said.

The ceremony marked more than a simple tree planting, as it served to strengthen “the already strong bonds that exist between two great countries,” according to Underhill.

“It is about highlighting a partnership that exists to provide peace and freedom to the people of the (ROK), and all throughout the Pacific rim,” he continued.

In the end, the Koa tree, like the ROKAF ADA’s visit in general, “represents the ever growing partnership between our two countries, and our respective coordination of commands (between) the (ROKAF ADA) and the (94th AAMDC),” Underhill said.

311th: Signaleers gather at gala event



Members of the historic Kings Guard Drill Team, Royal Hawaiian Guard, twirl their rifles during a performance for attendees of the Signal Regimental Ball, in Kapolei, Sept. 17. The Kings Guard is known around the world as one of the most exciting and crowd-pleasing exhibition drill teams currently in existence.

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developed to support the Army’s change-management process, and to more effectively and efficiently manage the day-to-day operational tasks of the Pacific LandWarNet, which the 311th Signal Command maintains and defends to facilitate secure communication for Army in the Pacific region.

The week came to an end Sept. 17, with the annual Signal Corps Regimental Signal Ball at Marriott’s Ko Olina Resort in Kapolei, where more than 600 signaleers, friends and family members gathered for a festive evening of entertainment and fellowship. The keynote speaker, Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, Army chief information officer, was the guest speaker for the gala.

Retired Lt. Gen. Thomas Rienze, the Army’s oldest living signal officer, was asked to cut the signal cake using a traditional signal saber.

“As Soldiers, we must shoot, move and communicate,” Rienze said. “And you can’t do any of that if you can’t get a signal.”

ARC: Exercise creates a more robust hazardous response team

CONTINUED FROM A-1

they withered in agony for weeks until their eventual death.

Initial radio reports listed bottles marked with propylene chlorohydrin, but thankfully, the lab in question was set up for a two-day exercise to test the ability of multiple hazardous-entities' abilities to work together and respond to a threat in Kauai. The 93rd Civil Support Team, a Hawaii National Guard unit; civilian emergency teams from across the nation; and a large contingent of foreign military observed the exercise.

"We learned a lot from each other," said Sgt. Tracy Lawson, team leader, ARC Platoon, 71st Chem. Co., 8th MP Bde. "The communication, and how we taught and trained each other, made this exercise a great improvement from last year's exercise."

Schofield Barracks' ARC platoon is designed to respond to a CBRN hazard anywhere within the Pacific theater, and trains to work with any unit – civilian or military. One miscommunication in a joint environment could not only put the emergency responders at risk, but the general public as well.

"The communication between the military and

us was great," said Bob Carr, chief, Pacific Missile Range Facility. "By the second day, we incorporated the military's command structure into our own and were able to effectively relay our initial findings, and set up a decontamination line."

Along with working with the PMRF and 93rd CST, the ARC Platoon had four Airmen from the 647th Emergency Management Flight, 647th Air Base Group attached to it, allowing the services to work together and build upon one another's specialties.

"This exercise has been a great opportunity for us to combine our abilities to create a more robust hazardous response team," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Nathan Hargrafen, emergency technician, 647th EM Flight, 647th ABG.

"I'm proud of what my Soldiers have done," said Sgt. 1st Class Bond, ARC Platoon sergeant, 71st Chem. Co, 8th MP Bde. "That they were able to perform as professionally and precisely under pressure (as they did) is a testament to their training and abilities working with multiple organizations."

Bond said the ARC Platoon's goal was to get hands-on training in a real life environment, and to be able to operate in a joint environment with

the PMRF. The Kauai County Weapons of Mass Destruction exercise allowed them to do just that.

"We had some hurdles initially the first day

with communication between us and PMRF, however, by the second day we had done a complete 180," he said.



Soldiers from ARC Platoon, 71st Chem. Co., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, and PMRF federal firefighters respond to a man-down scenario during a joint CBRN training exercise, on Kauai, Sept. 14.

311th Signal supports new change-management process

JIM ELO
516th Signal Brigade, 311th Sig. Command

FORT SHAFTER — Five civilians of the 311th Signal Command were recognized for their commitment to excellence during a ceremony at the 516th Sig. Brigade conference room, here, Sept. 16. The ceremony took place during the Senior Leader Conference, one of many events held during Signal Regimental Week, Sept. 13-17.

During the ceremony, they were sworn in as representatives for the Enterprise Service Management Framework, or ESMF. The 311th Sig. Command and the 516th Sig. Bde. established a framework to support the Army's change-management process. The ESMF representatives are Todd Spillers, 59th Sig. Bn., Fort Richardson, Alaska; John Sumpter, 58th Sig. Bn., Okinawa, Japan; Ron Driscoll, 78th Sig. Bn., Camp Zama, Japan; Edward Takeya, 30th Sig. Bn., 516th Sig. Bde., 311th Sig. Command, Schofield Barracks; and Ron Richards, 311th Sig. Command, Fort Shafter.

"As representatives for the (ESMF),



Courtesy of 311th Signal Command

Col. Dana Tankins (left), commander, 516th Sig. Bde., 311th Sig. Command, congratulates Lt. Col. Frank Snyder (right), commander, 30th Sig. Bn., 516th Sig. Bde., 311th Sig. Command and the Hawaii Network Enterprise Center, as he accepts the ESMF appointment orders during a ceremony at Fort Shafter, Sept. 16.

you are being empowered with the authority to make decisions that will put the best business processes in place across the theater," said Col. Dana Tankins, commander, 516th Sig. Bde., 311th Sig. Command. "This is important to the Army because it sets the standards

for improving the delivery of (information technology) services across the Pacific, for the warfighter."

The ESMF representatives from each of the Network Service Centers from around the Pacific will work together to ensure IT services in the Pacific are

delivered when and where they are supposed to be.

They also will align the ESMF in accordance with the Department of the Army, chief information officer's IT governance strategic vision, and with the IT infrastructure library. This will enable the command to use an automated tool set for tracking, reporting and managing the Army's IT environment in the Pacific.

The ESMF is an IT management system developed to more effectively and efficiently manage the day-to-day operational tasks of the Pacific LandWarNet, which the 311th maintains and defends in order to provide secure communication for the Army in the Pacific region.

The ESMF is responsible for managing availability, capacity, incidents and problems with the network, and ensuring the required levels and quality of service are not only achieved, but exceeded, with given resources. They are also responsible for maintaining a service catalog to ensure appropriate IT service continuity plans exist.

The program provides for continual identification, monitoring and review of the levels of IT services, specified in the service level agreements. This management ensures that arrangements are in place with internal IT support-providers and external suppliers in the form of operational level agreements. During this process, managers establish metrics and monitor them against a benchmark to assess the impact of change upon service quality and SLAs.

Don Tarkington, service level manager, 516th Sig. Bde., said he relies on the process to provide the necessary support, and ensure the agreed services are provided in a cost-effective, secure and efficient manner. While Demetra Hayes, change manager, 516th Sig. Bde., and Richards, will oversee ESMF operations and ensure IT industry best business practices are utilized across the theater.

"We know this is a great effort for the Pacific theater," Tarkington said. "This will also be the way we do business across the Army LandWarNet."



Singers dazzle audience at



Finalists are (left to right): Tracy Ross, U.S. Army, retired, first place; Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Nelson, HHC, 45th Sust. Bde., 8th TSC; Spc. Parker Ward, HHC, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, third place; Angela Nelson, Army spouse; 2nd Lt. Hannah Hawtin, HHD, 500th MI Bde.; Jennifer Tavarez, Army spouse, second place; and Spc. Marcus DeFrance, 209th ASB, 25th CAB, 25th ID.



The family readiness group from the 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, competes for a \$300 Spirit Award.

Story and Photos by
VICKEY MOUZÉ
Pau Hana Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – The ear-splitting screech of an air horn blasts through Tropics Recreation Center, here, as its enthusiastic owner, yells, "Who are we?"

"HHD!" is the response.

"Who are we?"

"HHD!"

And so on, until the group clad in black T-shirts emblazoned with baby blue letters denoting the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade, is shouted down by two other spirit teams.

One team wears white T-shirts adorned with the letters "2-14," denoting the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. The other team has donned artillery-scarlet T-shirts, representing the 2nd Bn., 11th Field Artillery Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID.

This friendly display of unit esprit de corps was part of the festive atmosphere, Sept. 17, here, designed to encourage seven finalists competing for the top spot in the "Operation Rising Star" singing competition.

Patterned after "American Idol" and similar televised competitions, the contest shines the spotlight on vocalists, who are judged by a panel of judges and an audience of their peers. Singers competed for the chance to win the local first place prize of \$500.

At the end of the three-hour event, the judges and audience chose Tracy Ross, a retired Army first sergeant, as first place winner.

Ross, who has 22 years of service as an aircraft weapon systems repairer, sang "Unchained Melody."

"I chose 'Unchained Melody' for a couple of reasons," Ross wrote, in an e-mail. "First, I felt that this song would appeal to the masses. Secondly, it featured a wide vocal range. And last but not least, it provided me the ability to play with the music and give it my own (rhythm-and-blues) flavor."

He compared his vocal style to that of Peabo Bryson, whom he counts as one of his inspirations.

As first place winner, Ross now advances to the Armywide competition for a chance to win an ultimate recording music experience: record, mix and master a demo with studio professionals. The prize includes a three-day trip to Los Angeles for the winner and a guest.

Ross said that he feels honored to represent U.S. Army-Hawaii at that level.

Like Ross, who started singing in church as a child, second-

Operation Rising Star finalists

- First place (\$500): Tracy Ross, U.S. Army, retired
- Second place (\$250): Jennifer Tavarez, family member
- Third place (\$100): Spc. Parker Ward, HHC, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID
- Spirit Award (\$300): HHD, 500th MI Bde.

Additional finalists

- 2nd Lt. Hannah Hawtin, HHD, 500th MI Bde.
- Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Nelson, HHC, 45th Sustainment Bde., 8th Theater Sust. Command
- Spc. Marcus DeFrance, 209th Aviation Support Bn., 25th Combat Combat Avn. Bde., 25th ID
- Angela Nelson, family member

To see the winning performances, visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com. See more photos from Operation Rising Star at www.flickr.com/photos/usag-hi/sets/.

place winner Jennifer Tavarez started singing as a youngster.

"I would grab the hair brush (to represent a microphone) and sing in the bathroom mirror," she wrote, in an e-mail.

For both, the 2010 competition was the first time either had entered Operation Rising Star.

"I am just excited to have been able to do something I absolutely love doing, while representing my husband's unit, the (205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde.)," she added.

Her winning selection was Carrie Underwood's "Last Name." She chose the song "because it was fun, filled with attitude and it really engaged the audience."

"If singing is your passion, then go for it," she said. "Unless people have a passion to do something, they will either not do it, quit or do it halfway. However, if a person truly has a passion to do something, they will do it and do it extremely well."

Third-place winner Spc. Parker Ward, Headquarters and

Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, performed Sublime's "What I Got," the first song he learned to play.

He has been playing music since he was 9. Reminiscing in an e-mail, Ward credits an uncle and a cousin for "showing (him) what being a musician is all about."

Ward encourages Soldiers to try out for next year's Operation Rising Star.

"If you have any musical experience and are comfortable on stage, play one cover and then do nothing but originals, if you are confident in them," he said. "If you don't have musical experience and just want to get up there, do it! There is no better way to experience the musical scene than to just jump in."



Spc. Parker Ward, HHC, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, won third place. His winning song was Sublime's "What I Got."



Jennifer Tavarez (left), an Army spouse, was named second-place winner in "Operation Rising Star" finals at Schofield Barracks, Sept. 17. Tracy Ross (right), a retired Army first sergeant, won first place.





Today
Family Fun Friday — Enjoy great family-friendly fun at Family Fun Friday. Rotating theme nights feature food, fun and games. Free pizza is served on a first-come, first-served basis.
Call 655-5798 for updates on locations or visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.

25 / Saturday
Day for Kids — Spend an afternoon celebrating a “Day for Kids,” Sept. 25, 1-4 p.m., at Schofield Barracks’ School Age Center, Building 1280, 1885 Lyman Rd. This free nationwide event is dedicated to providing meaningful interaction between kids and adults, and is open to military children and youth of all ages.
Call 656-0079.

Adventure Snorkeling Level I — Enjoy a great day under the water, in some of the world’s best snorkeling spots, with Outdoor Recreation, Sept. 25, 6:30-11:30 a.m. At \$25 per person, you can’t afford to miss out!
Call 655-0143.

26 / Sunday
NFL Sunday Ticket — Live games are aired every Sunday, 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Tropics Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks. The Tropics will stay open, if necessary, for overtime. Food and beverages are available for purchase.
Call 655-5698 or visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com.

27 / Monday
Hula Classes — The Office of the Native Hawaiian Liaison, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, welcomes all Soldiers and families to participate in free hula classes, 6-8 p.m., Mondays. The Sept. 27 class will be held at Army Community Service, Building 2091, Kolekole Avenue, Schofield Barracks. October classes will be held at the Kalakaua community center, Schofield Barracks.

Beginners’ class starts at 6 p.m.; advanced class begins at 7 p.m. Classes feature the different types of hula and fundamentals of hula steps, movement and posture.
E-mail nhliaison@gmail.com or call 655-9694.

28 / Tuesday
Library Movie Night — Stop by Sgt. Yano Library, Sept. 28, 6-7:30 p.m., for a free showing of “Fahrenheit 451.” This movie is rated PG.
Call 655-8002.

29 / Wednesday
Hawaiian Language Workshop — Attend the free Hawaiian language



Vickey Mouzé | Pau Hana Editor

Learning the history of hula

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Office of the Native Hawaiian Liaison, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, in conjunction with the Sgt. Yano Library, conducted a hula workshop, here, Sept. 16. Kumu hula (teacher) Ladd Haleloa shared the history of the hula with Soldiers and family members. Free hula classes are held weekly. To register or to find out more information, e-mail nhliaison@gmail.com or call 655-9694. See more photos from the workshop at www.flickr.com/photos/usag-hi/sets/.

workshop, presented by the Office of the Native Hawaiian Liaison, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, every Wednesday, 6-8 p.m., through September.

Classes teach Hawaiian vocabulary, including colors, numbers and shapes. Classes are conducted at Army Community Service, Building 2091, Kolekole Avenue, Schofield Barracks.
E-mail nhliaison@gmail.com or call 655-9694.

30 / Thursday

Hale Ikena — Help celebrate the Hale Ikena’s 11th birthday by partaking of free samples and activities, Sept. 30, 5-7 p.m. Call 438-1974.

October

4 / Monday

Auditions — Audition for “Camelot,” the legendary musical tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, Oct. 4-6, 7 p.m., Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter.

Auditions are open to everyone; experience is nice, but not necessary. Call 438-4480.

15 / Friday

Rocktoberfest — Put on your lederhosen and rock out with Kilroy at

Rocktoberfest, Oct. 15, starting at 6 p.m. at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. German food and other tasty Rocktoberfest fare is available for purchase. Enjoy live music, adult-oriented games and prizes. This is an adult event.
Call Dana Spalding at 656-0097.

Ongoing

Pool Closure — Helemano and Aliamanu Military Reservation pools will close Oct. 10-May 31, 2011.

Also, the wading pool at Schofield Barracks will close Oct. 18-Nov. 8, for reconstruction.

Call HMR Pool at 653-0716, or AMR Pool at 833-0255.

Free Exercise Classes —Soldiers and family members can sign up for free classes at the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center. Classes include group cycling, cardio-kickboxing and yoga.

Visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com or call 655-8007.

Teen Theater Thursday — Learn the basics of stage acting in the ongoing theater program for teens ages 12 and up. Meetings are held the first and third Thursday of the month at the Sgt.

Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, 4-5:30 p.m.
Call 655-8002 to register.

Study Strong (Tutor.com) — Tutor.com offers Army families free, online tutoring to kindergarten through college-prep students, 24/7. Tutoring services are available in all grade levels of math, science, English and social studies at no cost to Army families. A live tutor can aid students on the subject matter.
Call 655-9818 or visit www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss_tutor.

State Vehicle Safety Check — Is your vehicle safety check about to expire? Stop by the auto skills shop at Fort Shafter or Schofield Barracks to renew your state vehicle safety checks. Safety checks are performed on a first-come, first-served basis; appointments aren’t necessary.
Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402, or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368.

Woodshop Safety Class — This class is required to work in the woodshop at the Arts and Crafts Center, Schofield Barracks. Classes are held on the first and third Saturday of the month, starting at 8 a.m. Cost is \$10 per session.
Call 655-4202 to register.

Office, Ticketmaster outlets and ticket master.com, or charged by phone at (800) 745-3000.
All proceeds will benefit Hawaii’s military troops.

October

3 / Sunday

USO — Visit TellUSO.org to participate in a 10-minute customer satisfaction survey through Oct. 3. Let the USO know what you want and need from the USO, and how it can improve its services and programs.

9 / Saturday

Surf Competition — The Kuau Rockin’ Surf Competition will be held Oct. 9, at Pyramid Rock Beach, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

The event is open to the public for men and women of all ages. Registration fees are \$25 for civilian and \$15 for military (late fees apply).
Visit www.mccshawaii.com.

16 / Saturday

Family Fun Run — Hale Kula Elementary School, Schofield Barracks, will hold its monthly “Family Fun Run,” Oct. 16, 9 a.m.

The two-mile runs, held one Saturday each month, are a great way for families to run together.

All families, even those who do not attend Hale Kula, are welcome to participate.
Call 622-6380.

Splash & Dash Biathlon — Open to the public, the Splash & Dash Biathlon is set for Oct. 16, at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The race begins with a 500-meter open water swim, followed by a 5K-foot race around the flight line. Start time is 7 a.m., at Hangar 103.
Visit www.mccshawaii.com.

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

Buddhist Services

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

Catholic Mass

•Tuesday & Thursday, 8 a.m. at AMR
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC and WAAF chapels
•Saturday, 6 p.m. a Hawaiian-style Mass (May-Aug. only) near the Army Museum (FD)
•Sunday services:
-8 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, 12 p.m. at MPC
•Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

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

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

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

Pagan (Wicca)

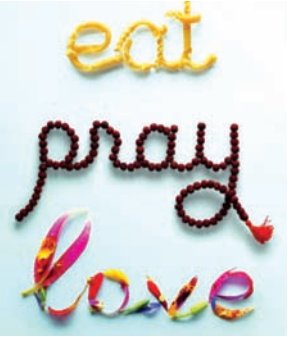
•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

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

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

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



Eat Pray Love

(PG-13)
Fri., Sept. 24, 7 p.m.

Toy Story 3

(G)
Sat., Sept. 25, 4 p.m.

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World

(PG-13)
Sat., Sept. 25, 7 p.m.

Ramona and Beezus

(G)
Sun., Sept. 26, 2 p.m.

The Switch

(PG-13)
Wed., Sept. 29, 7 p.m.

Dinner for Schmucks

(PG-13)
Thurs., Sept. 30, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Community Calendar

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

Today

Air Show & BayFest — The 2010 Kaneohe Bay Air Show, featuring the Blue Angels and BayFest, is open to the public Sept. 25-26.

But Sept. 24, those with base access can enjoy the show without the big crowds during the Kaneohe Bay Air Show Military Appreciation Day. It’s a good way to beat the traffic and crowds, to be among the first to see the Blue Angels perform. Limited rides, activities and food will be available.

The Blue Angels kick-off party is at The Club at Koa Malina, from 5-10 p.m. Military members and authorized patrons, E-6 and above, are invited to the free event to meet the pilots and crew.

Plus, there is entertainment, featuring Tahitian dancers, a fire-knife dancer, hula halau and live Hawaiian music, complimentary food and more.

Weekend events include BayFest; concerts; a car, bike and hot-rod show; and children’s rides. The air show is free and open to the public. Gates open each day at 9 a.m.

Visit www.mcbh.usmc.mil/airshow or call 254-7563 or 477-5143.

25 / Saturday

National Public Lands Day — Help celebrate National Public Lands Day by helping to beautify Oahu’s natural resources.

The following events are scheduled for Sept. 25.

•Volunteer to remove trash from the Waikiki shoreline, beach berm and the park at Fort DeRussy, Sept. 25, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Meet at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District’s Pacific Regional Visitor Center, located on the second floor of Battery Randolph, Fort DeRussy. Bring a hat and sunscreen, and dress to get dirty. Bottled water, trash bags and gloves will be provided.

To RSVP, e-mail angela.h.jones@usace.army.mil or corey.w.yamashita@usace.army.mil.

•Volunteers can help the Department of Land and Natural Resources water and fertilize native Hawaiian plants in the Makiki Valley, Sept. 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Water, gloves and tools will be provided. Wear long pants and long sleeve shirt, good traction shoes or boots, and insect repellent. Bring motivation and a bag lunch.

To get to the forest work site, go up Makiki Street and take a left at the fork on to Makiki Heights Drive. Before the first hairpin turn, go straight into the Makiki Forest Recreation area. Meet at 9 a.m., at the Makiki Forestry Baseyard just above the Hawaii Nature Center building.
Call 973-9782.

IRS — The Internal Revenue Service will host a special nationwide open house Sept. 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. to help taxpayers — especially veterans and people with disabilities — solve tax problems and respond to IRS notices.

IRS staff will be available to help taxpayers work through issues and leave with solutions.

The Honolulu Tax Assistance Center is located at 300 Ala Moana Blvd.

Taxpayers requiring special services, such as interpretation for the deaf or hard of hearing, should call 524-5953,



500th MI Bde. defeats ‘Wolfhounds’ in Right Arm Night tug-of-war

TARA SCULLY
Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Testosterone was pumping at “Right Arm Night,” Sept. 10, at the Nehelani, here, as the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, “Wolfhounds,” 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, faced off against the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade for the tug-of-war championship.

The Wolfhounds showed up in full force with the highest unit attendance for the night, ready to intimidate and eliminate its competition.

At first, no one was willing to challenge the defending tug-of-war champs. However, with a little persuasion, the 500th MI Bde. rallied enough support to take on the Wolfhounds.

The 500th came out victorious and walked away with \$250 in Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation unit funds and championship bragging rights, until the next Right Arm Night competition.

“To the non-competing units, I would have to say, you did the right thing,” said 1st Sgt. Keith Humphries, 500th MI Bde. “There never really was a chance to defeat the mighty 500th MI



Allan Criss | Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Soldiers with the 500th MI Bde. compete against 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, in the tug-of-war contest at Right Arm Night, Sept. 10, at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks.

Bde. anyway, so why try? Before coming after the mighty, mighty 500th at the next Right Arm Night, challengers should consider the weeks of recovery time needed for the mind and body following the competition. What a shame it would be for you to put forth all that effort and still walk away losers.”

The Wolfhounds attribute their loss

to their bare feet and are petitioning for everyone to compete barefoot in the next competition.

The Wolfhounds, however, did not walk away empty-handed. One Soldier won the grand prize drawing for a Nintendo Wii and, as first-place winner in the Texas Hold ‘em tournament, 1st Sgt. Samuel Banogan won a \$50 gift

certificate from the Hale Koa.

FMWR organized Right Arm Night. Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, said he is pleased with unit participation and support of the Right Arm Night events.

“It’s great seeing units and commands socializing together and seeing people from different units socializing as

well,” he said. “It is a part of our Army culture to take time out of our busy schedules and spend time together in a setting away from work. It strengthens our teams and builds camaraderie.”

“This was my first experience at the FMWR Right Arm Night in Hawaii, but will not be my last,” Humphries said.

He added that his initial perception of Right Arm Night, before attending, was that it would be more formal. However, he soon realized it was actually designed to be fun. He said that Right Arm Night provided him an opportunity to mingle with other noncommissioned officers and officers.

Dana Spalding, program analyst, FMWR, and Right Arm Night organizer, is thrilled about this feedback and said this is exactly what the new club strategy is trying to achieve.

“We want our Soldiers to know that FMWR does offer events (for) Soldiers, free of baby bouncers, that are directly geared at them having a good time and building camaraderie in the community,” she said.

The next Right Arm Night is scheduled for Nov. 5, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter.

USAG-HI honors volunteers who donate food, pampering services

Story and Photos by
VICKEY MOUZÉ
Pau Hana Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii has recognized two volunteers for their efforts at the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, Sept. 14, here.

Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, presented a garrison certificate of appreciation to Jennifer Sueoka. Wendy Sato, who wasn’t present at the time, will receive her certificate in the future.

Sueoka has been cooking and serving homemade meals for the Warrior Transition Battalion’s spouse support group at the SFAC for about a year. Sueoka, who teaches at Hale Kula Elementary School, Schofield Barracks, said that preparing meals is her way of giving back.

“I come into contact with a lot of military families at school, especially the moms,” she said. “I just feel for them.

“They are very hardworking caregivers,” Sueoka continued. “A lot of them gave up their jobs to be caregivers. That takes a lot of time and energy.

“I thought it would be nice for them to have a break from cooking once a month when the group meets,” she said. “So I thought that I’d make their dinner and they could enjoy their presentations.”

While the group’s attendees vary from 10-20 spouses each month, Sueoka cooks enough for at least 20. She learned how to cook for a large crowd while growing up in Hilo.

“My family had a lot of get-togethers, so cooking for many comes naturally,” she laughed.

Her menus usually consist of a vegetable or pasta salad; an entrée, such as shoyu chicken; and a dessert.

“The brownies are the most popular,” she said, adding that spouses are encouraged to take home leftovers.

She and her husband, Roddy, who works at the SFAC, serve dinner then start cleaning up



Jennifer Sueoka prepares to serve a homemade pasta salad to the WTB spouses support group at the SFAC, Schofield Barracks.

when that night’s presentation begins.

During the presentation, Sato will treat each spouse to either a mini-massage or a hand massage and manicure-shaping. Each spouse gets her own private session.

“The spouses need pampering,” Sato said. “They’re so busy looking after their kids and husbands. So, they need a little TLC (tender loving care) too, and someone to look after them.”

Sato is a licensed cosmetologist and massage therapist. This particular evening was the third time she’d made the trip from the shop where she works downtown to Schofield.

“I think it’s great that Jennifer and Wendy are being recognized for what they do here,” said Jessica Armel, leader for the WTB spouse support group. “They deserve the recognition.

“They don’t expect anything out of it. It’s their way of giving back,” she said.

The SFAC or Na Kao Puuhonua, the Warrior Place of Refuge, is the centralized location where Warrior Transition Battalion Soldiers and families can get needed integrated services and information.

The SFAC belongs to Army Community Service, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, USAG-HI.



Wendy Sato gives a mini-massage to Victoria Hundoble during the WTB spouses support group.

Mulbury hosts his first North town hall meeting

VANESSA LYNCH
News Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The North community town hall meeting, held here, Tuesday, promoted the dialogue between community members and senior leadership from 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and got the ball rolling on pressing community issues.

USAG-HI regularly hosts a town hall for Oahu North and South communities so Soldiers and family members can learn what’s happening in their neighborhoods and get answers to their questions.

“Your issues are extremely important to us,” said James Brown, Oahu North community director and moderator for the meeting. “We want to hear your input.”

The evening’s meeting provided community updates on security, housing and the Juvenile Review Board.

Main issues included traffic during morning physical training, community housing and unattended minors in the Porter community skate park.

“We exist to serve our Soldiers and families,” said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI. “It takes a community to make a community.”

Lt. Col. Daniel Hulsebosch, director, Directorate of Emergency Services, briefed that by Sept. 29, all installation gates would be 100 percent manned by Department of the Army security guards. Also, open housing areas such as Mendonca Park and Helemano Military Reservation will have guards during a portion of the day.

“Sixty percent of the crimes we see (here) are that of opportunity,” Hulsebosch said, about the universal concern about unsecured property. “Again, we urge people to lock their cars and homes, and not to leave anything of value in plain sight.”

Hulsebosch also encouraged community members to contact the Directorate of Emergency Services at 656-6750 or via e-mail at fred.makinney@us.army.mil, before spreading misinformation about safety and security concerns on post.

“We would much rather have people spreading the truth than spreading rumors and getting community members in an uproar,” he said.

Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl Jannone, USAG-

Live in the South region? The next South community town hall is scheduled for Oct. 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation’s Chapel.

Oahu, and president of the Juvenile Review Board, discussed the monthly JRB.

“USAG-Oahu convenes a monthly JRB, and it’s designed to deter juveniles from noncompliance with an installation’s good order and discipline, and laws and regulations; with behavior modification and social interventions as its primary goals,” Jannone said. “Just this past Saturday, 32 juveniles picked up 300 pounds of trash from White Plains Beach.”

The final briefing of the evening came from Tony Hintz, North Region operations director, Island Palm Communities.

“We want to see what you see and hear what you hear,” he said. “We want to be your neighbor.”

He discussed new home construction in Kalakaua; Porter, which includes Moyer; Kaena, which is part of Santa Fe; and the Wili Wili area on Wheeler; and renovations in Canby, Wheeler and Helemano communities, as well as homes in the Patriot/Hamilton, Santa Fe and Solomon communities.

Hintz estimated the Wheeler Community Center office will open later this year or early January 2011. The new center will include a swimming pool, water-spray park, tot-lot, activities room, fitness room and a theater.

Before the evening wrapped up, subject matter experts and senior leadership fielded questions from the audience.

Questions concerned the lack of 24-hour security guards at Helemano Military Reservation, traffic congestion on Wright Avenue and by Hale Kula Elementary School, and unattended youth and inappropriate behavior at the Porter community skate park.

All questions were documented. If a question wasn’t resolved at the meeting, Brown planned to provide written feedback to the resident within a 72-hour time frame.

“Overall, I think this evening went very well,” Mulbury said, about his first face-to-face town hall meeting. “It’s important that we have these types of events and provide community members with feedback.”

The next North town hall is scheduled for Jan. 25, 2011.

New online housing resident survey ‘Insite’ goes live

ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A new online customer survey program called Insite has gone live on the Island Palm Communities website.

Insite will give residents a chance to rate property management services.

Following the completion of a maintenance service order, move-in or move-out, residents will receive an e-mail that contains a link to the Insite survey. After completing and submitting the survey, information will be forwarded to Island Palm Communities and Satisfacts Research, the third-party company managing the online tool.

Residents may choose to remain anonymous. However, if an issue should be or needs to be addressed, then a name is requested so staff can respond quickly.

A link for general feedback also can be found on the Island Palm Communities website that provides residents with an opportunity to comment, share ideas or make suggestions anytime during their residency.

Insite is intended to increase communication with residents for the timely resolution of issues, as well as provide a method whereby Island Palm Communities can evaluate and improve its services to residents.

Positive feedback received through Insite is also important; it will help validate and ensure continued funding of important resident programs and services.

“We think our residents will find this option quick, easy and effective in addressing their questions or concerns,” said Tom Adams, property management director. “Insite will provide residents with another way to give us feedback and share their ideas.”



Visit www.islandpalmcommunities.com to fill out the Insite customer survey program. The survey is listed under “Resident Programs.”

Donations needed for deployed medical team

ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Donations for a medical unit in Iraq that took a direct improvised explosive device hit are being collected by Island Palm Communities and Actus Lend Lease through Sept. 24.

The Soldiers’ belongings were lost in a fire caused by the IED.

Everything from bedding, toiletries and non-perishable snacks will be collected, packaged and shipped next week. Cash donations also are welcome and will be used to purchase more items to go in the care package to Iraq.

The drive is part of Island Palm Communities’ annual Community Day project, sponsored by the Lend Lease Foundation.



Visit www.islandpalmcommunities.com for a list of needed items and drop-off locations.

‘Cacti’ play hockey to benefit local Wounded Warriors Project



Vanessa Lynch | News Editor

First Lt. Josh James, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, warms up on the ice before the game.

STAFF SGT. AMBER ROBINSON
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Three Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, “Cacti,” 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, along with Soldiers from other units, teamed up with the Air Force to become team “USA White” at the inaugural Ice Hockey Charity Game, Aug. 29, at Honolulu’s Ice Palace.

The game was held to raise money and awareness for the Wounded Warrior Project in Hawaii.

“Today’s game is all about giving back to those who have sacrificed for their country,” said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class David Taylor, principal organizer of the event, who works at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

“The Wounded Warrior Project is a really good organization that is very dedicated to helping Soldiers with tangible relief when they are wounded,” said Capt. Pierce Cote, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, who played in the game. “I talked with one gentleman ... on our team who had been

wounded in Iraq. (The) Wounded Warrior (Project) arranged for his mom to fly to Germany to meet him, then flew her back stateside with him and picked up her bill for the hotel she stayed at while he was getting fixed up.”

“Services like this really help keep Soldiers confident that when they are wounded, there is someone there that is going to make sure they are taken care of,” Cote said.

Maj. John Hubbard, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, who also belongs to the Ice Palace Adult Recreational

Hawaiian Hockey League, alerted Cote about the opportunity to play in the game. First Lt. Josh James, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, also played in the game and is an avid hockey player who played through college. James’ initial goal spurred the team to an eventual 5-2 Army win.

“James scored the first goal for the team,” Cote said. “Hubbard and myself just focused on not getting in his way! I had not played hockey in years, and actually had to go buy all new equipment, a small price to pay to get to help a good cause.”

Hale Kula encourages children to run

JAN IWASE

Hale Kula Elementary School

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Hale Kula Elementary School, located here, encourages wellness for all students and families.

In fact, running is such an essential part of the school’s physical education program that it hosts several running events each year.

One such physical education activity is the school’s “Family Fun Runs” that have been added to the calendar this year. The two-mile runs, held one Saturday each month, are a great way for families to run together. The next scheduled Family Fun Run is Oct. 16. All families, even those who do not attend Hale Kula, can participate.

Hale Kula also recently hosted its sixth annual Hale Kula Invitational Cross-Country Meet, with participants from Hale Kula, Helemano, Solomon, Wahiawa and Wheeler elementary schools. The Leilehua High School cross-country team and the 25th Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, provided assistance and support throughout the race.

More than 200 third- through fifth-

graders represented their schools and ran three-fourths of a mile around the school. Shawn Nakamoto, Leilehua cross-country coach, provided electronic timing for the race. Leilehua runners also served as mentors for the elementary students.

Hale Kuna views all of the participants as winners as they completed the course and are making running a part of their lives.



Courtesy Photo

Elementary school students pose after they participate in the Hale Kuna Invitational Cross-Country Meet.

Hale Kuna Invitational Cross-Country Results

Third-grade girls

- 1st - Kayla Holland, Hale Kula
- 2nd - Takiyah Williams, Hale Kula
- 3rd - Tamia Baker, Hale Kula

Third-grade boys

- 1st - Donovan Sykes, Solomon
- 2nd - Connor Harrison, Hale Kula
- 3rd - Juan Lopez, Solomon

Fourth-grade girls

- 1st - Skylar Goodman, Hale Kula
- 2nd - Camaryn Earle, Helemano
- 3rd - Valencia Collins, Wheeler

Fourth-grade boys

- 1st - Jacob Parker, Hale Kula
- 2nd - Erik Naumann, Hale Kula
- 3rd - Weston Myers, Hale Kula

Fifth-grade girls

- 1st - Ciara Fauleoner, Solomon
- 2nd - Megan Ayala, Wahiawa
- 3rd - Shaurice Robinson, Wheeler

Fifth-grade boys

- 1st - Mathias Aiava, Hale Kula
- 2nd - Jaymond Agdinaoy, Helemano
- 3rd - Josef Watkins, Wahiawa



Courtesy Photo

A vintage flight for warriors

BARBERS POINT — Bruce Mayes (left), president, Pacific Warbirds, flies Soldiers like Spc. Jeff Lynch, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, “Wolfhounds,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, around Oahu landmarks in his 1944, World War II vintage U.S. Navy SNJ (AT-6) aircraft to connect wounded warriors with veterans. Call 753-1346.

TAMC begins seasonal flu vaccinations

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
News Release

HONOLULU — Flu vaccinations have begun at Tripler Army Medical Center for people who are deploying; health care providers with direct patient contact; those that work with children less than six months of age or high risk patients; pregnant women; those with chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung disease; and people 65 years of age or older.

Because the current vaccine contains two seasonal A strains – including the 2009 pandemic H1N1 virus – and one B strain, only one shot is necessary.

“We have both (the) injectable and Flu-Mist vaccine(s) available, and we want to stress that when we speak of health care providers, we are including both military and civilian,” said Lance Golder, military vaccine analyst, U.S. Pacific Command.

Last year, Tripler vaccinated more than 99 percent of their active duty personnel, but only 60 percent of the Army civilians and even less for civilian contractors.

“We cannot emphasize enough that getting the vaccine is critical in protecting yourselves and our patients,” Golder said. “As health care workers, we promise to ‘of-

Military Exchange Mass Influenza Program

All dates, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
•Oct. 23, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Air Force Exchange (Building 1232, Hickam side)
•Nov. 6, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Navy Exchange (off Nimitz)
•Nov. 12, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Navy Exchange (off Nimitz)
•Nov. 13, Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Exchange
•Nov. 20, Schofield Barracks Main Post Exchange

fer our patients no harm’ and by administering the vaccine, we are doing just that.”

With the flu vaccine now on hand, immunization for all enrolled beneficiaries is underway at Tripler’s Immunization and Allergy Clinic, Pediatric Clinic and Internal Medicine Clinics. Schofield Barracks Health Clinic’s Family Practice and Pediatric Clinics are also providing vaccinations.

For those patients who wish to be immunized at SBHC, please note that “SBHC does not have an Allergy and Immunization Clinic, and therefore has the capacity to

immunize only those patients enrolled to our clinics,” said Col. Matthew Rettke, deputy commander for clinical services, SBHC.

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 will not be charged, according to Golder. They should visit www.express-scripts/tricare or call (877) 363-1303 for more details and participating pharmacies.

For more information about clinics offering vaccinations, call the Tripler flu hotline, 433-1FLU.

Getting a flu shot is just part of the protection against the illness. With any strain of flu, basic precautions also help. People need to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Then, throw the tissue in the trash. Sneeze in a shirt-sleeve. People need to wash their hands often and thoroughly, with soap and water, especially after coughing and sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, and regularly clean knobs, telephones and items that many people use or touch. Germs spread this way.

‘Army Move!’ helps families maintain, lose weight

LT. COL. PATRICIA MCKINNEY
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ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — The proportion of overweight Americans has increased over the last decade and the proportion of those who are obese has doubled.

Just as the nation struggles with the obesity epidemic, so does the military community. Data analyzed from the Clinical Data Repository of patient height and weight records in February 2009, showed that 68 percent of active duty family members, retirees and retiree family members ages 17 and older are overweight.

Obesity places an immense burden on the health and well-being of individuals, com-

munities and health care systems. Health and weight are connected. Being overweight or obese increases an individual’s risk of health conditions such as type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease.

The good news is that these risks can be



With an Army Knowledge Online account, Soldiers, retirees, family members and Department of Defense civilians can access Army MOVE! at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/248187>.

prevented and controlled by making positive lifestyle changes such as healthy eating and moving more.

“Army MOVE!” is a weight management program to help the Army family lose weight, keep it off and improve health.

The program is designed to help families discover nutrition and physical activity strategies. It offers real-time sessions online or face-to-face in a medical treatment facility or wellness center. Registered dietitians and other health care providers coach these sessions.

Participants have access to self-management tools to include a customized individualized report identifying their obstacles to weight management.

Tricare encourages military kids to exercise

TRICARE
News Release

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The national “Let’s Move!” program works to combat the epidemic of childhood obesity through engaging every sector that impacts a child’s health. It provides schools, families and communities simple tools to help kids be more active, eat better and get healthy.

By observing Childhood Obesity Awareness Month in September, Tricare is an active participant in the Let’s Move! program for military children.

The Let’s Move! campaign reports that during the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled, and currently, nearly one in three children in America is overweight or obese. One third of all children born after the year 2000 will suffer from diabetes at some point in their lives.

Many others will face chronic obesity-related health problems like heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer and asthma.

Tricare knows it isn’t easy battling obesity. Weight loss occurs when calories consumed are less than calories burned. If children or adults consume more calories than they are burning, there is a good chance they will gain weight. Decreasing calorie consumption and increasing physical activity to burn more calories than consumed is the simple recipe for weight loss.

For someone who is obese, staying committed to changing his or her diet may not be simple. Physicians and experts are in agreement that battling obesity involves a commitment to healthy eating habits and regular exercise. Having a support system is also important.

For exercise and activities, check with schools for a list of programs. The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers a range of activities from team sports like basketball, baseball, music, dance, martial arts, gymnastics, swimming and more.

Learn more about Let’s Move! at www.letsmove.gov and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month at www.healthierkidsbrighterfutures.org. Other resources for healthy lifestyles include: www.Tricare.mil/getfit, www.commisaries.com and www.mypyramid.gov.

