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## Colors forward

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade color guard leads the 3rd Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, during a redeployment ceremony honoring the brigade's return to Hawaii following a 12-month deployment to northern Iraq, Tuesday. During the ceremony, friends, family and guests witnessed the squadrons and battalions of the 25th CAB uncasing their respective colors, officially returning to service. Read the complete story in next week's paper.

Sgt. Jesus J. Aranda | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

# Casey promises sustained programs



Courtesy of U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

Following a Sept. 30 ceremony, Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, takes time to talk with USARPAC Soldiers and family members, like Staff Sgt. Steed Simmons (left), noncommissioned officer in charge, USARPAC protocol.

CSA maintains that Soldier, family programs won't be cut out of budget

NANCY RASMUSSEN  
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Gen. George Casey Jr., U.S. Army chief of staff, presented two prestigious awards, here, Sept. 30, and reassured Hawaii Soldiers and families that the promises made in the 2007 Army Family Covenant, or AFC, will not suffer when Department of Defense budget cuts are made.

Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, introduced Casey to the standing-room-only crowd and

#### RELATED STORIES

• Read more about Gen. Casey's visit to Hawaii on A-3.

acknowledged his contributions to the success of the USARPAC mission.

Casey also re-emphasized the increasingly strategic importance of USARPAC's presence in the Asia-Pacific area of operations and proclaimed this as, "the century of the Pacific."

Noting the large number of family members present, Casey discussed Secretary of Defense Robert Gates' intent to cut the defense budget by \$100 billion, and squashed concerns that Soldier and

SEE CASEY, A-3

# 8th TSC hosts first local Expert Sapper Competition

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

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Observing tradition and the esprit de corps of combat engineers, the 65th Engineer Battalion recently hosted its first Expert Sapper Competition, Sept. 28-29.

The competition, here, was modeled after the Best Sapper Competition held at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and was open at all military units in Hawaii.

"There is a tremendous amount of tradition

within the 65th Eng. Bn. and the engineer branch as a whole," said 2nd Lt. Brandon Burner, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command. "The role of a sapper involves an immense amount of skill, so combat engineers take pride in their abilities to perform their specialized tasks to the standard.

"The Expert Sapper Competition capitalized on teams' sapper skill sets, mental and physical toughness, and pride in their role as combat engineers," he said.

The contest took place during two days,

SEE 8th TSC, A-9

# ASAP celebrates life in support of Ntl. Suicide Prevention Month

MELISSA PARNELL  
Risk Reduction Program, Directorate of Human Resources

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS— Army Substance Abuse Program team members marked the last day of national Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month, Sept. 30, by holding a celebration of life at Kalakaua Community Park, here.

ASAP sponsored a total of 24 suicide prevention events, here, throughout the month of September, with the intent of deterring or preventing high-risk behaviors that are associated with suicide, such as alcohol and drug use.

During the final event, active duty Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians and retirees relaxed with free massages and navigated go-carts through a coned course while wearing "drunk goggles."

If you have thoughts of suicide, please call the Hawaii State ACCESS Line at 832-3100. The Hawaii State ACCESS Line is a suicide and crisis call center hotline available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Help is also available through Military OneSource at (800) 342-9647 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-TALK.

Participants also received information on services available to enhance quality of life and reduce high-risk behaviors, as well as enjoyed treats provided by the family readiness group for Company B, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th

SEE ASAP, A-9



Col. Richard Kim (center right), commander, 3rd BCT, 25th ID; Pvt. 2 Devin Cooper, 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT (middle); Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Spano (center left), command sergeant major, 3rd BCT — flanked by Pvt. 2 Lafayette Lucky (left) and Pvt. 2 Heavenly Redding, both of 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT — cut the ribbon on the new DFAC.

# New DFAC at 3rd BCT now open for business

Story and Photo by  
**SPC. HILLARY RUSTINE**  
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs,  
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — With just a few snips of the ribbon from Col. Richard Kim, commander, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division; Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Spano, command sergeant major, 3rd BCT; and Pvt. Devin Cooper, 3rd Bde. Special Troops Battalion, 3rd BCT, the new dining facility was open for business, here, Friday.

The DFAC is dubbed the Bronco Café and is located in C-Quad.

The dining facility moved from F-Quad to C-Quad because of size constraints and the lack of available food service equipment in the older facility.

"It took 30 days to get up and running," said Chief Warrant Of-

ficer 2 Tomeki Sanders, outgoing chief warrant officer in charge of the dining facility, 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT, about the move. "It was a very aggressively planned, but it was a team effort."

The choice to move to the newly renovated space was an easy one, considering gains for the food service specialists, Soldiers and quality of food. The newly renovated dining facility has more room and better equipment to accommodate the Soldiers of the brigade.

"We gained 150-200 square feet of (additional) preparation and storage space," said Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Brown, 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT.

Although the move to the Bronco Café was quick and tough, Soldiers and brigade leadership

SEE 3rd BCT, A-7

## 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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## Garrison Commander's Corner

# School Liaison Services connects families, schools, communities

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

We know how important children's education is to the readiness and well-being of Army families, so several resources are available to Army families to assist in their child's education.

One of the resources I want to emphasize is the School Liaison Office, or SLO, a branch of Child, Youth and School Services. The SLO coordinates and assists Army families and school-age youth with educational opportunities and information necessary to achieve academic success.

SLO is the point of contact for facilitating the delivery of quality school transitions, assisting parents and easing the impact of the mobile military lifestyle on children's academic progress. The SLO serves in a communication and assistance role between the school system and military families.

The goals of the SLO program are to identify barriers to academic success and develop solutions, to promote parental

Mulbury

involvement in their children's education, to develop and coordinate an Army partnership in education, to provide parents with the tools they need to overcome education obstacles that stem from the military lifestyle, and to educate local communities and schools regarding the needs of military families.

SLO created a program that informs school personnel about the military

lifestyle. The Military Culture Course is designed for Department of Education and community caregivers to learn about the effects of deployments on families. In recent months, the course has been presented at the Nehelani and the Hale Ikena – with many accolades.

Another successful joint effort involving our SLO is the Partnerships in Education initiative through the School Partnership Program. Through this initiative, and in collaboration with the Joint Venture Education Forum and the military-impacted schools' military unit commander, much-needed school products are purchased with JVEF funds.

Homeschooled children are also supported through SLO, and they are regularly invited to participate in classes at SLO facilities at Schofield Barracks. Occasionally, science and physical education classes are held for larger groups, while other homeschooled children enjoy computer and dance classes.

The educational experience of our

military children is critical and of the utmost importance. Therefore, the relationship between schools and military families needs to be nurtured and enhanced constantly. Through collaborative efforts with the DOE, parents and military, the military child becomes the recipient of a good education while in Hawaii.

School liaisons are a valuable asset for you, and I encourage you to use them fully.

For more information on School Support Services, including the School Liaison Office, call 655-9818.

Sgt. Taeon Bing | U.S. Army-Pacific

## USARHAW CFC kick-off

FORT SHAFTER — Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commanding general, U.S. Army-Pacific, talks about his personal experiences donating to the Combined Federal Campaign, or CFC, during the 2010 Hawaii-Pacific area CFC kick-off event at the Hale Ikena, here, Oct. 4.

The luncheon was held to encourage philanthropy and provide people with the opportunity to improve quality of life. Last year, the Hawaii-Pacific area — which includes Guam, Northern Marianas Islands and American Samoa — raised more than \$6 million. This year's theme is "iContribute, iAssist, iRenew, iEnrich ... iCare."

For a full listing of local, national and international CFC charities, visit the CFC website at [www.cfc-hawaii.org](http://www.cfc-hawaii.org).

## FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

# People who sleep with anger create destructive patterns

**CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) STEVE HOMMEL**

Installation Management Command-Pacific Region

The root cause of many of the problems facing families today is a failure to resolve deeply-seated anger and bitterness.

The best answer I have for this situation is advice that my wife and I received as newlyweds 24 years ago – don't go to bed angry.

Working my way through Bible

“Anger – even for all the right reasons – becomes wrong and destructive if it is expressed inappropriately, held on to, nursed, buried or allowed to fester.”

— **Chaplain (Maj.) Steve Hommel**

Installation Management Command-Pacific Region

college, I distinctly remember my crusty old foreman, Bob, imparting that particular bit of wisdom to me. Aside from the fact that anyone married longer than 40 years must be doing something right, what interested me most about Bob's advice was that he was paraphrasing Scripture without realizing it.

His advice echoed Ephesians 4:26-27: “Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.”

The passage doesn't say don't ever get angry, because anger in itself is not sinful. Jesus was angry several times in Scripture, yet had never sinned. Of course, the sorts of things that made Jesus angry are not usually the sorts of things that make most of us go off the hinges.

Anger – even for all the right reasons – becomes wrong and destructive if it is expressed inappropriately, held on to, nursed, buried or allowed to fester into bitterness.

When we repeatedly go to bed angry, we give the devil an opportunity. The memory of what exactly made us angry tends to fade, but we do not forget our anger. It resonates, just under the surface, waiting for an excuse to explode.

When couples get into huge fights over minor annoyances and irritations, the fight is not actually about the clothes on the floor, whether the toilet seat was left up or down, or any number of other minor quirks. The fight is really about unresolved anger that lingers, simmering just beneath the surface, waiting for an excuse – any excuse – to go off. Anger is like living in a minefield.

Say or do the wrong thing and kaboom!

In his book “Making Love Last Forever,” Dr. Gary Smalley said, “The average person has little or no idea how damaging forgotten or ignored anger can be – alienating loved ones, sabotaging relationships. Worse yet, most people don't even know how much destructive anger they're carrying

around – and from past experiences, everyone has some degree of buried anger ... This (unresolved) anger causes more pain, drowns more marriages, sinks more children than any other power I know.”

On an individual level, the way a person expresses anger is usually learned in childhood. Angry, bitter parents usually produce angry, bitter children. It is a vicious cycle that can go on for generations.

Left unchecked, people will usually react to situations in marriage, or in raising their own children, in the same sorts of ways they observed while growing up. Lashing out, ignoring, nagging and manipulating can seem natural because it is all they have ever known.

There is hope, but changing a destructive pattern in your life and home must start with you. You can't change other people. You can only change yourself.

Do not wait for a nagging wife or insensitive husband to change before you start dealing with your own issues. This delay is just an excuse to avoid taking responsibility for your own actions.

The first step towards change starts with a good, hard look in the mirror. Whenever I can be honest and accountable with the person that caused the pain and suffering in my life – namely, myself – it suddenly becomes a lot easier to forgive other people for their faults and failures.

It may take time, but even small changes in this area of dealing with anger and bitterness can have an enormously positive effect on your life and relationships.

## How do you help prevent or deter crime in your community?

Photos by 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

“Good education and instilling morals through church and family support.”

**Michael Acosta**  
Owner, Haha's Beauty Supply

“Keeping valuables out of sight and always locking doors.”

**Pfc. Luis Amezcuea**  
Co. B, 2nd Bde. 25th ID

“I tell (my son) to never walk alone, come in when the street lights come on and always keep his phone on so I know where he is.”

**Sherry Chaicharn**  
Sales manager

“(By) shredding personal documents.”

**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kenneth Singleton**  
HHC, 25th CAB, 25th ID

“(By) locking my car and house doors at all times.”

**Pfc. Jamaih Wright**  
HHC, 3rd BCT, 25th ID

# Voices of Ohana

# Chief of Staff visits with 25th ID, civilians after MRX ends

**SGT. 1ST CLASS KRISHNA GAMBLE**  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Tropic Lightning Soldiers and civilians have once again proven their ability to redeploy, reset and deploy trained forces to contingencies and operations worldwide

to accomplish all assigned tasks, during a mission readiness exercise, here, recently.

Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, visited the division as the exercise concluded, for an after-action-review and to speak with leaders and discuss the upcoming mission.

Retired Gen. Dan McNeill, former commander, U.S. Army Forces Command, and Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, also visited during the exercise to share their expertise.

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division and

Department of the Army civilians rehearsed battle command tactics, techniques and procedures, Sept. 20-Oct. 1, in preparation for their upcoming deployment to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

The main goal of the exercise was to develop a selfless, teamwork mentality across the organization that fosters relationship-building with Iraqis, Department of State, international and non-governmental organization counterparts.

Soldiers and staff from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID; 3rd BCT, 25th ID; 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th ID; division staff; the Battle Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; and 18th Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg, N.C.; participated in the exercise.

“I don’t think we will have any problems,” said Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Dawson, noncommissioned officer in charge, 25th ID operations center, about their upcoming deployment.

Concurrently, the division also began its earliest stage of deployment preparation by packing containers with equipment and supplies, and completing individual Soldier training and assessments.

“As we go into this mission, we honor those who have gone before us for their sacrifice ... we own this,” said Maj. Gen. Bernard Champoux, commanding general, 25th ID.

The division will deploy to Iraq later this year.



Spc. Mahlet Tesfaye | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, visits the 25th ID Headquarters for a conference, Sept. 30; he also participated in the 25th ID’s after-action-review of the two-week MRX the division recently completed for its upcoming deployment to Iraq.

## CSA honors TAMC lifesavers

**JAN CLARK**  
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Everyone could feel the pride sizzle in the air as Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. alighted from his vehicle at Tripler Army Medical Center, Sept. 30, and proceeded to present an Army Achievement Medal, or AAM, and a Meritorious Civilian Service Award, to two men whose quick actions, back in January, saved a life.

Casey’s visit, here, was part of a whirlwind trip to numerous commands on island.

During his visit, he honored Spc. Matthew Belot and retired Sgt. 1st Class Roy Ridgeway, both TAMC staff members, for their actions, Jan. 21, which saved the life of Joel Jenkins, TAMC protocol officer, when he collapsed outside TAMC’s oceanside entrance.

Belot was awarded the AAM and Ridgeway received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

Jenkins was standing in front of the hospital visiting with a long-time friend, and Ridgeway was close by texting on his phone. When Jenkins crouched down, Ridgeway thought he was just stretching his leg, as Jenkins had completed a 20-mile run the weekend before.

Then, Jenkins fell back. He was unconscious and having difficulty breathing.

Ridgeway leapt into action, trying to get him to respond.

“I called for help and asked for a code to be called to the front of the hospital,” Ridgeway said. “I rolled (Jenkins) into the recovery position and monitored him. His breathing stopped, and I called for an automated external defibrillator and rolled him onto his back.”

Capt. Andrew Schlusless, general surgery resident, arrived on scene and began chest compressions, as Ridgeway performed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Belot, a health care specialist, heard that a code-blue was in effect just as he was preparing to go home.

“This was the first time I responded to a code, and it happened so fast,” Belot said. “I rushed outside and then immediately back (inside) to get the AED. I exposed the chest and applied the pads as (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) was being performed.”

This lifesaving experience didn’t just affect Jenkins’ life, but also the lives of the two men who stepped forward to save his life.

“This was my first experience with a patient in distress,” Belot

**CPR classes are available at the following locations:**

- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, 499-0166
- Schofield Barracks, 655-4927
- Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, 257-8848

said. “I realized that day how important my job as a medic is. The following day, I went to TAMC’s Directorate of Health Education and Training and requested more advanced training, which I now have.”

For Ridgeway it was a reminder.

“I am truly fortunate to serve with the great ohana here at Tripler,” he said. “I want to thank everyone for being so responsive, absolutely dedicated to their jobs and taking such good care of (Jenkins).”

Jenkins is a distance runner who maintains an extremely high level of fitness, and he recovered quickly because of his healthy lifestyle. Four months after his ordeal, he was able to complete a 50K that supported the Wounded Warrior Project.

“This is a real testament of the importance of learning basic life support and (CPR),” Jenkins said. “The fact that a private (Belot) had the presence of mind to grab the AED and knew exactly how to implement it was key to my survival – that and, of course, having (Ridgeway) right there. I am extremely grateful he was there when the event occurred.

“And I’m extremely grateful that Gen. Casey would honor these two men during his visit,” he added. “It makes it all the better.”



Chris Chang | TAMC

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Roy Ridgeway (center) and Spc. Matthew Belot (right), receive awards from Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, for saving a coworker’s life, at a ceremony at TAMC, Sept. 30.



Courtesy of U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Brian Byington (right), operations noncommissioned officer, USARPAC career counselor, receives the Soldier’s Medal, Sept. 30, from Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, at Fort Shafter’s Palm Circle gazebo. While vacationing at Disney World last year, Byington saved the life of a drowning civilian.

## USARPAC master sergeant risks life, saves civilian

**NANCY RASMUSSEN**  
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – While vacationing at Disney World last year, Master Sgt. Brian Byington, operations noncommissioned officer, U.S. Army-Pacific career counselor, performed a lifesaving act of heroism, and as a result, joined the elite company of Soldiers who have distinguished themselves as recipients of the Soldier’s Medal.

Established in 1926, the Soldier’s Medal is awarded for the performance of acts requiring personal hazard or danger, and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving conflict with an armed enemy.

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George Casey Jr. presented the medal to Byington, at an awards ceremony, here, Sept. 30.

Byington and his wife, Sgt. 1st Class Mary Byington, who is currently deployed with 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, were walking around the

Disney Port Orleans Resort’s 1.7-mile track, which runs along a canal clearly marked as a “no swim” zone, July 21, 2009, when she spotted an individual in the water. The couple stopped in the middle of their early morning walk to see what was going on.

Realizing the person in the canal was at risk of drowning, and disregarding his own personal safety, Byington immediately dove into the murky retention canal to retrieve the drowning man. He recovered the victim, and with the man on his back, swam underwater 30 feet to a nearby shore. After saving the civilian’s life, he waited with his wife for rescue personnel to arrive on scene.

“His feat of individual heroism epitomizes the Army values, which serve to guide and inspire our Army,” said Sgt. Maj. Mariaciелito Pascual-Jackson, retention sergeant major, 25th ID.

“It just goes to show, you never know what adventure awaits you at Disney World,” Byington said.

## Casey: General lauds master sergeant, civilian with awards



Courtesy of U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

Gen. George Casey Jr., Army chief of staff, pins the Superior Civilian Service Award on Sandra Chun (right), director, Civilian Human Resources, at a USARPAC awards ceremony, Sept. 30.

CONTINUED FROM A-1

family programs would be cut.

When Casey signed the AFC at Fort Knox, Ky., Oct. 17, 2007, along with then Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston, Casey commented on the stressors associated with seven years of sustained conflict in Afghanistan.

“It was immediately clear to us that the families were the most stretched, and as a result, the most stressed part of the force, and that what we were asking (of) those families was a quantum different than anything I expected we would ask,” Casey said, at that time.

He continued by promising to provide Soldiers and their families with a level of support commensurate with their level of service.

“I know folks are very nervous that when

resources come down, which they will, that the first thing to go will be family and Soldier programs,” Casey said, while here. “I’m here to tell you that we have sufficient funds to ensure that does not happen. And we will maintain the commitment we made to families in 2007 in the (AFC). If you take nothing else away from the visit here, please help me spread that word.”

Earlier in the day, Casey joined 25th Infantry Division Soldiers at Schofield Barracks for an after-action review of recently completed pre-deployment training.

He also commended a Soldier and a Department of the Army civilian employee at an awards ceremony attended by Fort Shafter Soldiers and civilians.

Casey presented Master Sgt. Brian Byington, USARPAC career counselor, with the

Soldier’s Medal, which is awarded for performance of acts requiring personal hazard or danger and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving conflict with an armed enemy. While vacationing at Disney World last year, Byington saved the life of a drowning civilian.

Casey also presented the Superior Civilian Service Award to Sandra Chun, director, Civilian Human Resources, for orchestrating a seamless transition from the National Security Personnel System to the General Schedule System, for USARPAC civilian employees, with 100-percent accuracy.

“These individuals are great representatives of our noncommissioned officer corps and our civilian workforce,” Casey said. “Both groups (are) absolutely essential to the long-term health of the Army.”

# ‘New dawn’ comes for children’s, women’s education

Deployed Forces

‘Wolfhounds’ ensure contractors produce quality work on time

**SPC. ROBERT MICHAEL ENGLAND**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARHORSE, Iraq — The hallways of a grade school were uncharacteristically silent and absent of students, but despite the vacancy, the classrooms had many new additions.

Rows of desks created straight lines across the rooms, with tables at the front of each room for an instructor.

A small, empty field with a soccer goal at either end, foretold the location of many future games. At the entrance to the school grounds, a bright red rib-

bon hung between the fence posts, glimmering in the sun.

Two pairs of hands grasped the scissors, parted the blades and closed them around the ribbon, snipping it in two. The Al Samad grade school was officially reopened, Sept. 20, after months of renovations.

Lt. Col. Donald Brown, commander, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, “Wolfhounds,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, and Arif Mutter, Tikrit City Council, toured the Al Samad grade school before moving to a building adjacent to the schoolyard, where a second red ribbon awaited them.

The Abeer Ul-Mar’ah Institute for Women was also opening its doors for enrollment.

Both schools, located in Al Alam, in the Salah ad Din province of Iraq, were

projects the 2nd BCT inherited from previous units, so the brigade’s involvement was limited to tracking the projects and ensuring the contractors produced quality work, and that they adhered to their timelines.

“The brigade’s role was to make sure we track everything that we inherited and to close those contracts out,” said 1st Lt. Matthew Wolfe, civil affairs officer, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT. “Since we didn’t have initial ownership of this ... we needed to find the statements of work and make sure these contractors were building and delivering the product they were contracted with.”

Al Samad will have a standard curriculum, teaching children the core courses found in any other Iraqi grade school.

The Abeer Ul-Mar’ah Institute for

Women is a vocational institute, designed with the intention of teaching women viable skills that will make them competitive in certain occupational fields.

“Abeer Ul-Mar’ah Institute for Women was a partnership between the University of Tikrit and the Tikrit City Council,” Wolfe said. “It’s like a vocational school for women who want to learn certain skills like sewing and working with computers. (It’s) specifically designed ... to give women without opportunity the skills to be able to work in Iraq.”

Admission to the women’s institute is free, and eligibility for enrollment into the grade school is based on zoning guidelines, similar to those in the U.S.


Children can enroll in Al Samad provided that they fall into the school’s

zoning perimeter for that district.

In true advise-and-assist fashion, the Wolfhounds assumed a supervisory role while the City of Tikrit delivered the schools to its people, to meet their needs. Through the working partnership between the University of Tikrit and the Tikrit City Council, the women’s institute is shedding another ray of light in the dawn of a new, self-reliant Iraq.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremonies, two small children approached Brown with bouquets of flowers to express their gratitude to the Wolfhounds for their assistance in ensuring the children have a place to learn and grow.

Though the battalion’s involvement in the projects was limited, a sense of gratification was felt by all those who were present at the openings.



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

## Stirring paint

DIYALA PROVINCE, Iraq — An Iraqi army soldier and U.S. Soldiers with Company A, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, thin out paint, before supplying materials to a school, here, recently. Iraqi forces and U.S. Soldiers with 2nd BCT helped clean and paint a local school.

## Combined mission ends with four detainees, ammo cache

‘Golden Dragons’ witness increased proficiency of Iraqi soldiers in mission

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

KIRKUK, Iraq — During an Iraqi army-led cordon and search in the Rashaad Valley, here, nearly 50 IA soldiers with 2nd and 4th battalions of the 15th Brigade, discovered a cache with more than 800 rounds of heavy machine gun ammunition and detained four suspects, Sept. 25.

“The mission showcased the ability of the 15th Bde. IA to plan, coordinate and execute a complex mission almost entirely on their own,” said 1st Lt. Dan Chapman, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 14th Infantry Regiment, “Golden Dragons,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. “The plan was theirs; we merely gave input and pro-



First Lt. Dan Chapman (front), platoon leader, HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, pulls security during a cordon and search mission, in the Rashaad Valley of Iraq, Sept. 25.

vided enablers. We were definitely in the advise and assist role during this mission.”

The IA decided to search the site based on a reliable tip they had received about insurgent activity in the area, according to Lt. Col. Moufoq, IA ground force commander.

Chapman said that during the entire mission he was very impressed with the IA

soldiers and their leadership.


“The IA soldiers and leadership impressed me with their individual soldier professionalism, ability of leaders to command and control units on the ground, and adapt the plan to the situation on the ground,” he said.

Immediately after securing the ammo, detaining the four individuals and clearing the rest of the area, the IA once again impressed the Golden Dragons by visiting a nearby village to drop off humanitarian aid.

“It is important to build relationships with the people in the villages,” Moufoq said. “When we do, we are able to detain insurgents and find their weapons.”

Chapman said this mission set the standard for IA missions during the responsible drawdown of U.S. troops.

“This operation, and others like it, will demonstrate the increased ability of the Iraqi security forces to stand on their own against internal and external threats once the U.S. withdraws,” Chapman said.



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

## Changing commanders

DIYALA PROVINCE, Iraq — Capt. David Webb (left), outgoing commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, conducts a speech at the Baiji Oil Refinery, here, Sept. 22, during a change of command ceremony.



Christina Douglas | 9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

## Returning warriors

FORT SHAFTER FLATS — Army reservists from Detachment 5, 322nd Civil Affairs Brigade, 9th Mission Support Command, get applause from fellow Soldiers, friends and family members during a welcome home warrior-citizen ceremony, at the U.S. Army Reserve Center, here, Sept. 25. The reservists recently returned from a deployment to Kosovo, where they provided civil affairs support as part of Task Force Falcon, Brigade Group-East. Additionally, four reservists were recognized for their efforts as part of the 1490th Civil Affairs Company, U.S. Division-North.

# 84th Engineers conduct real-world survey missions in Mongolia

### CAPT. JEREMY TILLEY

84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia — The 142nd Survey and Design Detachment, a technical engineer unit, recently returned from a real-world survey mission, here.

The detachment was tasked to survey a 10-kilometer road leading to the Mongolian armed forces' Five Hills Training Center, which is used to conduct peacekeeping operations training for all United Nations countries.

The center also hosts the annual multinational peacekeeping training exercise known as KhaanQuest.

Its remote location in the sparsely populated hills of Mongolia is only accessible by a few dirt roads due to harsh weather eroding the primary route leading to the training center. The 142nd Survey and Design Det., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, had two survey elements walk the road and collect more than 3,500 separate GPS data points.



Sgt. Stephanie White | 142nd Survey and Design Det., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC

Pfc. Bryan Brodt (left), Spc. Eduard Hernandez (center) and Spc. David Gillespie, all from the 142nd Survey and Design Det., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, survey data points along the road leading to the Five Hills Training Center.

Once the Soldiers were back at the home station, they used specialized computer software to analyze the data and produce a 3-D model of the road and the surrounding terrain. This mod-

el will help engineers plan for a road improvement project.

While at the training center, the team also conducted a subject matter expert exchange with Mongolian armed forces

engineers. The Mongolian engineers accompanied the detachment on its survey to learn more about the technology used and to discuss ideas about how the road would best be improved.

"The opportunity to work with the Mongolian armed forces was a life experience I will never forget," said 2nd Lt. Kevin Daley, officer in charge for the mission, 142nd Survey and Design Det., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde. "I enjoy being able to work with an allied nation on real-life missions throughout the Pacific theater."

This mission was the first deployment of any kind for several members of the survey team, and the detachment's second mission since redeploying from Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2009.

"It was a lot of fun to be able to visit a foreign country and execute a mission using my military occupational specialty, especially since we know it will help the Mongolian armed forces," said Pfc. Bryan Brodt, 142nd Survey and Design Det., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th

Eng. Bde.

In June, the detachment sent a survey team of six personnel to recertify Kastner Army Airfield at Camp Zama, Japan, because Federal Aviation Administration regulations require all airfields and heliports to be surveyed every five years.

The team gathered more than 650 different pieces of GPS and line-of-sight survey data on obstructions, airfield markers and approaches to the airfield, ensuring all were within FAA compliance, so the airfield would remain operational.

The detachment is currently the only unit of its kind in U.S. Army-Pacific and hopes to remain busy executing real-world missions.

In addition to surveying roads and airfields, the 142nd supports the 84th Eng. Bn.'s mission by providing scope of work and bill of materials estimates, technical drawings and quality assurance/control for all horizontal and vertical construction missions the battalion executes.



# State of Hawaii honored for employment of Guard, Reserve

## American Forces Press Service

# Customer service champions uphold garrison's 'pono' code

Customer Management Services, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

"We make do with what we have to get things done. It doesn't make sense to complain," said Larry Thomas, chief, M/VI, who smiles as he hammers together a handmade podium that has seen better days.

# News Briefs

**Lane Closures** – Humphreys Road from Lyman Road to Kolekole Avenue is being resurfaced through

A VA health care representative is available Thursdays and Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., to answer questions about VA health care information and to assist OEF/OIF veterans with referrals and VA disability claims.

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# New 3-7th FA Regt. NCOs uphold tradition as leaders

Story and Photo by  
**SPC. HILLARY RUSTINE**

3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Under the crossed swords of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, a new group of noncommissioned officers became part of the backbone of the Army in an NCO induction ceremony, Sept. 29, at the 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT Headquarters Gymnasium.

Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Davila, command senior enlisted leader, Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, spoke to the newly indoctrinated NCOs about being adaptive and finding mentors.

“Find the leader who had the biggest impression on you and emulate them,” he said.

The new graduates were encouraged to lead by example, charged to honor the traditions of the Army and reminded to respect the men and women who have come before them.

“This is an outstanding experience that we should go through to carry on the traditions of the Army,” said Sgt. Arthur Stevenson, recent graduate, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT.

Staff Sgt. Leo Escartin, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, agreed with Stevenson’s sentiment about honoring traditions.

“It is good to continue to uphold the ceremony as (a) stepping stone (of) our military careers,” he said.



The graduating NCOs of 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, stand ready to accept their new responsibilities as leaders during the unit’s NCO Induction Ceremony, Sept. 29.



Spc. Hillary Rustine | 3rd BCT Public Affairs, 25th ID

MTT Advanced Leader Course distinguished honor graduate, Sgt. David Winners (right), 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, presents Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Keveles, command sergeant major, MTT, a souvenir to show the class appreciation.

## 3-7th FA Regt. readies for next deployment

**STAFF SGT. AMBER ROBINSON**

3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs,  
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Twenty Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, graduated after recent training with the Advanced Leaders Course Mobile Training Team, here, Sept. 29.

The course was held throughout the month of September and focused on tactical and technical proficiency of skill level three Soldiers: advanced FA noncommissioned officers and leaders who are eligible for ALC due to the training they have accomplished in the past.

“I loved the competition the instructors used to motivate everyone to the next level,” said Sgt. Armondo Perez, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Medrano and Staff Sgt. Joseph Pultaric, highly qualified noncommissioned officers who specialize in training artillery Soldiers for that next level of leadership, both stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., comprised the MTT.

“The instructors were definitely subject matter experts who set the course and field work at a good pace,” said Sgt. Kyle Landmesser, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT. “We got

leadership training with (the) technical skills that are needed to be a knowledgeable and effective NCO in our skill set.”

The training not only taught Soldiers how to be better NCOs, but how to apply those skills to their areas of expertise, which will be in need when they deploy to Afghanistan, next year.

“I am confident the (NCOs) completing this course will apply their knowledge and newly developed skills, add experiences from their past assignments and perform in an exceptional manner in our future missions,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Dale Perez, command sergeant major, 3rd Bn., 7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT.

Since the MTT is mobile, it provided Soldiers with training at the unit’s home base to save unit funds.

“Having the instructors come here to Schofield Barracks and conduct the (training) allowed our NCOs more time to spend with family and friends,” Perez said. “Additionally, the cost savings were tremendous, in that expenditures associated with moving the instructors and their equipment, here, were significantly less than the funds the Army would have expended to send our Soldiers to them.”

## 3rd BCT: DFAC serves patrons Hispanic foods

CONTINUED FROM A-1

were more than happy to visit the facility for the grand opening and to show their appreciation for the hard work, which made the reopening of the Bronco Café a success.

“The (grand) reopening was very well put together and much needed,” Spano said. “The facilities have been renovated and upgraded to provide a better work environment for our Bronco chefs, and provide a better facility for the Soldiers, civilians and families of the Bronco Bde.”

“We want our Soldiers to have (a) finer dining (experience) and the (food service specialists) to have a better place to prepare better meals (in),” said Chief Warrant Officer Leethornya Deal, incoming chief warrant officer of the new dining facility, 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT.

The facility’s first meal in the new facility was served in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month. The DFAC was decorated with bright colors, and a disc jockey played saucy dance music as diners began to filter in to the new facility. The facility gleamed, as 3rd BCT Soldiers moved through ample choices of authentic Hispanic food, salads and desserts.

“Tying this reopening with the celebration for the Hispanic Heritage (Month) was not originally planned, but it could not have worked out any better,” Spano added. “The chefs did a fantastic job preparing this healthy and delicious menu that gives all the Soldiers a taste of the Hispanic heritage. They ... showed us all that they have the heart and culinary skills to support the brigade ... while we are deployed.”

# 9th MSC reservists honored for last year’s tsunami efforts

Story and Photo by  
**CHRISTINA DOUGLAS**  
9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa – On the morning of Sept. 29, 2009, four massive waves ripped through the hearts and homes of local communities throughout the island of Tutuila, here.

“I won’t forget that day. I had never seen something like that before – not in my whole life,” said Sgt. 1st Class Tata Aga, a reservist from the 9th Mission Support Command, who had just returned from a yearlong deployment, a few weeks prior.

Aga’s two-bedroom, shoreline home lay in ruins. There was no power, no potable water and only enough food to last a few days.

While combing through the wreckage where his house once stood, Aga came across his ocean-soaked uniform and laid it out to dry.

Just days after the devastating tsunami had left 34 dead, Aga teamed up with neighbors to care for those in need. Donning his uniform, Aga left his own disaster area and went into the Army Reserve Center to assist with organizing disaster-relief efforts to help out the most critically-affected villages.

He was just one of the 49 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the 9th MSC who were honored in a Humanitarian Service Medal Award presentation, Sept. 29, at the Sgt. 1st Class Pele Army Reserve



Center, here.

The HSM is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who distinguish themselves by meritorious participation in a Department of Defense-approved significant military act or

operation of a humanitarian nature.

American Samoa Lt. Gov. Faoa Sunia, the ceremony’s guest speaker, said the Soldiers were heroes in his mind.

“Support came so quickly that the citizens almost didn’t have time to mourn,” he said. “All you had were your hands and your kind hearts ... on behalf of the people of the community, we are very grateful.”

During the ceremony, 9th MSC reservists from 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment; 411th Engineer Bn.’s Forward Support Company; Theater Support Group; and 127th Chaplain Detachment were recognized for providing disaster-relief efforts immediately following the tsunami.

Roughly one-third of the Soldiers who provid-

ed the disaster-relief efforts had homes that suffered significant damage or had been completely destroyed. But despite their losses, these Soldiers persevered, said Brig. Gen. Michele Compton, commanding general, 9th MSC.

They did what needed to be done to help others. They carried on, placed the mission first and didn’t quit, she said. Reservists looked for survivors, cleared debris and offered a hand wherever they could.

Following the 8.3-magnitude earthquake that resulted in the devastating tsunami waves, Soldiers from the 9th MSC sprung into action to support their brothers and sisters in the military and the local American Samoan community.

As the first U.S. federal responders, 9th MSC was the lead in reporting to U.S. Army-Pacific, and transformed the U.S. Army Reserve Center in American Samoa – Tutuila’s only standing federal military installation – into a hub for all military responders.

During the days of relief assistance that followed, the Soldiers also supported Federal Emergency Management Agency and American Red Cross missions, and they moved critical supplies to villages that were hit the hardest.

Further, Soldiers continued to provide search and recovery operations, give medical care to civilians and conduct massive debris removal across Tutuila.

# Memorial Service honors 9th MSC veterans past, present

‘Go for Broke’ Soldiers honor, support their predecessors

Story and Photo by  
**CHRISTINA DOUGLAS**  
9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

HONOLULU – Japanese-American veterans, both past and present, were honored at the 5th Annual Joint Memorial Service, Sept. 26, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Army reservists of the 9th Mission Support Command’s 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, gathered to volunteer and support World War II veterans from the 100th Inf. Bn., 442nd Regimental Combat Team; the Military Intelligence Service; and the 1399th Engineer Construction Bn.

Reservists played key roles in the service, including the presentation and posting of the colors, wreath presentation, prayer of remembrance, 21-gun memorial salute, benediction and the retiring of the colors.

According to an Americans of Japanese Ancest-

try press release, the 2006 inaugural Joint Memorial Service was the product of a decision by the Oahu AJA Veterans Council to honor fallen members of the four principle AJA units in World War II: the 100th Inf. Bn., 442nd Regimental Combat Team; the MI Service; and the 1399th Eng. Construction Bn.

“Conceived over five years ago, today’s Joint Memorial Service is the accumulation of efforts from various descendants, not only from the four council units, but many others in our community who understand and appreciate the sacrifices of our seniors who served during World War II,” said Mike Harada, president, 100th Inf. Bn. veterans club and host of the event. “We are here today to honor those (who) have passed on and (to) remind those that remain, their efforts are indeed appreciated.”

Harada also thanked the current members of the 100th Bn., 442nd Inf. Regt., during the memorial service.

“It is with heartfelt thanks we recognize Lt. Col. Kimo Dunn and the Soldiers of the 100th Bn., 442nd Inf. Regt., for their part in today’s cer-

emony,” Harada said. “But more importantly, we thank them for their endless efforts in perpetuating the reputation by upholding the unit’s highest standards that were established in World War II.”

For the Soldiers of the 100th Bn., 442nd Inf. Regt., participating in the local community event and supporting their unit’s veterans is both an honor and a privilege.

“It’s an awesome opportunity to recognize all of the veterans who served ... and represented us in World War II,” Dunn said. “(The veterans) represent the legacy of our unit, and us being a part of that is important.

“You see so many of our Soldiers volunteering



Lt. Col. Kimo Dunn (left), commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Glenn Gomes, command sergeant major, both of 100th Bn., 442nd Inf. Regt., 9th MSC, present a wreath during the Joint Memorial Service, Sept. 26, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

to come out and be a part of this ceremony. (This ceremony) provides that ‘Go For Broke’ spirit for all of us – past and present,” he said.



Courtesy of Army Substance Abuse Program

A Soldier tries to walk a straight line while wearing “drunk goggles” during ASAP’s Celebrate Life event, here, Sept. 30.

# ASAP: Agencies, groups come together

CONTINUED FROM A-1

Infantry Division, and Soldiers Against Drunk Driving.

The event brought together various agencies and community groups whose missions encourage a positive outlook on life. Participating agencies and groups included the Suicide Prevention Task Force, massage therapy provided by Michael Kaul Iharra, the Employee Assistance Program, the Risk Reduction Program, Survivor Outreach Services, Army Community Service, the Sexual Assault Response Program, the Exceptional Family Member Program, SADD, Sobriety Training and Recover Resources, the Native Hawaiian Liaison Office and the 25th ID Band.

“By providing resources and options to our Soldiers and their family members, we hope to promote the idea that there are other means in which to seek solution – beyond suicide,” said Jennifer Miller, RRP coordinator.

ASAP kicked off its Suicide Prevention Campaign, Aug. 30, when more than 1,800 active duty Soldiers attended the Save-a-Life Tour, or SALT.

“SALT is the nation’s most advanced, high-impact alcohol awareness program,” said Johnny Miller, ASAP prevention coordinator. “It featured nontraditional approaches to alcohol awareness and anti-drinking and driving campaigns, by utilizing state-of-the-art drinking and driving simulators.”



Courtesy of Army Substance Abuse Program

A Soldier tries to navigate a go-cart through a coned course, while wearing “drunk goggles” at the Celebrate Life event.

# 8th TSC: 25th ID team wins expert sapper

CONTINUED FROM A-1

where sleep-deprived Soldiers challenged each other in a physical fitness test, knots, mine clearing, military operations in urban training operations, a night land-navigation course, a 12-mile ruck march and a 25-meter swim, with a poncho raft that contained two ruck sacks and the team’s weapons.

“We trained physically, with rucks and runs in the morning,” said Staff Sgt. Nigel Kelly, Company A, 3rd Bde. Special Troops Bn., 3rd Bde. Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. “During the day, we just gathered everybody up for classes and one of us would teach the class. It wasn’t that much time, but it worked.”

Staff Sgt. Joshua Williams, Co. A, 3rd Bde. STB, 3rd BCT, said that a big part of his team’s success was the support that the team received from 3rd Bde. STB, 3rd BCT leadership, which led to personal motivation.

“Our leadership was there the whole way,” Williams said. “(During our) 12-mile (ruck march), when we were really, really hurting, (we came) around the corner to find our commander and first sergeant ... cheering us on. Kelley and I motivated each other to push on, telling each other we got a shot to win this thing, and we can’t give up now.”

Williams and Kelly did push on, and



Staff Sgt. Joshua Williams, combat engineer, Co. A, 3rd Bde. STB, 3rd BCT, 25th ID, carefully searches for a mine on one of the 14 testing lanes of the Expert Sapper Competition, held at the Engineer Training Area, Sept. 27.

they won the competition. They received a trophy and Army Achievement Medals for embodying the ability, stability and flexibility of a combat engineer.

“The competition united units by a common thread and encouraged a higher standard of profession-based abilities in the spirit of competition,” Burner said.



Soldiers take off as they race for their best Army physical fitness test scores, during the Expert Sapper Competition, Sept. 27.



Expert Sapper participants prepare their ponchos for the poncho-raft competition, at the Richardson Pool, Sept. 28. This event was the last of the 2010 Expert Sapper Competition.

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Want to learn more?

# Imagine an Army free of domestic abuse



Photos by Damarys Ramirez | Army Community Service

Empty place settings at Army Community Service memorialize individuals who have been hurt or murdered due to domestic violence.



Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, signs the Domestic Abuse Prevention Month proclamation at Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks, Sept. 30.



The 130th Engineer Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, conducts a brigade run in honor of Domestic Abuse Prevention Month, Friday.



Life-sized cutouts of women and children line the hallways at Army Community Service.

## Prevention events, activities take center stage in October

**DENNIS DRAKE**

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Army prides itself on its values — loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, integrity, honesty and personal courage — and admonishes its Soldiers to live by these attributes.

Unfortunately, a dark side transcends both Army and civilian communities: domestic violence.

Often, unspoken, physical abuse of spouses and children has claimed many lives and ruined many families. October is designated as Domestic Abuse Prevention Month in an effort to bring awareness to this ugly crime.

To highlight its importance, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii began that focus one day early, signing the 2010 Army Domestic Abuse Proclamation, here, Sept. 30.

For the proclamation signing, the Army Community Service classroom was lined with life-sized silhouettes of women and children, and an empty table with place settings — each one containing a true story of individual hurt in domestic violence — or murder.

The ACS Family Advocacy Program defines domestic violence as the use, attempted use or threatened use of forces or violence against a person, or the violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person.

Domestic violence is a punishable offense under the U.S. Code of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and state laws.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Keith Ferrill, 65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, explained to the audience that tensions often build between husbands and wives and their children, especially with the Army's current operational tempo.

"We must do all we can to prevent domestic violence before it happens," he said, noting that help is available through military chaplains, ACS, counselors and even battle buddies.

Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, then signed this year's proclamation that pledges the Army's support in reducing and eliminating domestic abuse.

"We are a stressed force after eight years of war and multiple deployments," Mulbury said. "This difficult issue requires a comprehensive approach to prevent it.

"We must take every opportunity to educate and help individual Soldiers and family members," Mulbury continued, "and we must educate and engage the chain of command — to help (Soldiers) know what resources are available to assist (them)."

The brief ceremony concluded after a moving, personal account of a domestic violence victim with a hope for a brighter tomorrow.

### Domestic Abuse Prevention Month Events

The Family Advocacy Program, ACS, has several events planned in support of Domestic Abuse Prevention Month:

- October: Domestic abuse visual display, Main Post Exchange mall, Schofield Barracks.
  - Oct. 13-14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Empty plate/silent witness display and information, Tripler, mountainside entrance.
  - Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Food drive and info booth, Schofield Barracks Commissary.
  - Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Food drive and info booth, Fort Shafter Commissary.
  - Oct. 19-20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Empty plate/silent witness display and info, Tripler, mountainside entrance.
  - Oct. 27, 5 p.m.: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Candlelight Vigil, McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Park.
  - Oct. 28-29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Empty plate/silent witness display and info, Tripler, mountainside entrance.
- Call 655-4227 for more details.

### Domestic Violence Reporting Options

- Restricted Reporting is for victims to disclose details of the abuse, receive medical treatment and counseling — on a confidential basis — without triggering an official investigation.

Call the Victim Advocacy Program at 655-4779 or Social Work Service at 433-8579/6066.

- Unrestricted Reporting is for victims who desire medical treatment, counseling and an official investigation. Call 911, or the

military police at 655-7114 or 438-7114.

- Victim advocates are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to offer assistance with safety and protection, emotional support and community resources. Call 624-SAFE (7233).



Soldiers assigned to the 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, prepare for their Domestic Abuse Prevention Month run, Friday, to promote awareness of domestic abuse prevention tools and programs.



**Today**  
**Halloween Photos** — Bring your keiki and camera to the Sgt. Yano Library, today, and take their photos at the free Halloween pumpkin patch. Call Sgt. Yano Library at 655-8002.

**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.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com](http://www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com).

**9 / Saturday**  
**Newcomers Island Tour** — Check out the free newcomers island tour. The tour departs at 8 a.m., from Schofield Barracks' Army Community Service, Building 2091, the second and fourth Saturday of the month, and from Fort Shafter Flats' ACS, Building 1599, the third Saturday of the month.

**2010 ROCKTOBERfest**  
**@NEHELANI**  
Nehelani/Kolekole  
Friday, October 15th (The party starts at 6:00 pm)  
Put on your lederhosen as we Rock out with Kilroy celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Oktoberfest. German food and other tasty Rocktoberfest fare is available for purchase. Enjoy live music, adult oriented games, and prizes.  
Also, don't forget to pick up a Commemorative Rocktoberfest 2010 Beer Stein for \$13 which includes your first round of beer.  
This is an ADULT event. No cover charge!  
For more info contact Dana Spalding at 656-0097.  
 [mwrmilitaryhawaii.com](http://mwrmilitaryhawaii.com)

## community calendar

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

**Today**  
**Pick a Pumpkin** — Sign up today for the Aloun Farms Pumpkin Patch fieldtrip, Oct. 12, 10 a.m., sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA. Cost is \$7.50 per person. Pick your own pumpkin, take a hayride and learn about farming. Call the Wheeler Army Airfield ASYM-CA at 624-5645.

**9 / Saturday**  
**Slam/Jam** — All ranks are invited to the free joint service poetry slam/jam, Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.-1 a.m., at the Tradewinds enlisted club, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Dress to impress. Call 448-2271.

**Surf Competition** — The Kuau Rockin' Surf Competition will be held Oct. 9, at Pyramid Rock Beach, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. First heat starts at 9 a.m. Visit [www.mccshawaii.com](http://www.mccshawaii.com).

**15 / Friday**  
**Over the Edge** — Special Olympics Hawaii's second annual Over the Edge event is set for Oct. 15 at the Sheraton Waikiki. Sponsored participants will rappel 31 stories (315 feet) down the Sheraton Waikiki. Find out more at [www.specialolympichawaii.org](http://www.specialolympichawaii.org).

**16 / Saturday**  
**Family Fun Run** — Hale Kula Elementary School, Schofield Barracks, will hold its monthly "Family Fun Run,"

Call 655-4227 or 438-4499.

**Ceramics** — Searching for something artistic to do? Visit the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., for a ceramic pouring class, and let your imagination lead the way. Cost is \$25 and covers classes and supplies.

Live on the south side of the island? Enjoy these classes at Fort Shafter, as well. Call 655-4202 (Schofield) or 438-1315 (Fort Shafter) for more information.

**11 / 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.

October classes will be held at the Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.

A beginner's class starts at 6 p.m.; an 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](mailto:nhliaison@gmail.com) or call 655-9694.

**13 / Wednesday**  
**Beginning Watercolor** — Learn color mixing and abstract techniques,

Oct. 13, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center. Four sessions are \$50 and include all needed supplies. Call 655-9042 to register.

**14 / Thursday**  
**Tutor.com** — Tutor.com is holding the following free events during October;

•Oct. 14, 4-5 p.m., Sgt Yano Library, Schofield Barracks: "Tutor.com for Teens." Teens can bring their homework and learn how to get help from a Tutor.com tutor.

•Oct. 15, 9-10 a.m., Sgt. Yano Library: "Tutor.com for Families." Learn how Tutor.com can help your family with homework, studying, college classes, resume writing, career transitions and more during a special interactive presentation by Tutor.com.

•Oct. 19, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Aliamanu Military Reservation Library: "Tutor.com for Fort Shafter and Aliamanu Families." Tutor.com will be at Aliamanu Library to explain how the program works for Soldiers, spouses and students.

•Oct. 20, 6-7 p.m., Sgt. Yano Library: "Tutor.com for Families." Learn how Tutor.com can help the family, from K-12, to college, to career transitions.

Tutor.com offers Army families free, online tutoring for 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 Sgt. Yano Library at 655-8002, or AMR Library at 833-4851.

To learn more about tutor.com, call 655-9818 or visit [www.mymilitaryonesource.com/cyss\\_tutor](http://www.mymilitaryonesource.com/cyss_tutor).

**Pumpkin Carving Contest** — Free pumpkins and carving supplies will be given to the first 15 children under 10 years of age who come to this Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, event, Oct. 14, 7 p.m. A parent or adult should accompany and supervise children at all times. Children older than 10 can bring their own pumpkins. The contest will start at 6 p.m.; judging begins at 7 p.m. Call 438-1974.

**15 / Friday**  
**"Zombie Prom"** — Enjoy "Zombie Prom," a romantic rock 'n' roll love story, at the Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m., Oct. 15-31. Call 438-4480 or visit [www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com](http://www.mwrmilitaryhawaii.com) for pricing and reservations.

**17 / Sunday**  
**"Shaken, Not Stirred"** — Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will host "Shaken, Not Stirred," a mixer for single Soldiers, Oct. 17, 7-10 p.m., at the Tropics, Schofield Barracks. Tickets are available for purchase at the Tropics or from BOSS representatives. Tickets are just \$7 before the event or \$10 at the door. For more information, call the BOSS office at 655-1130 or visit [mwrmilitaryhawaii.com](http://mwrmilitaryhawaii.com).

call Bryan Yoshimoto at 542-3738.

## Ongoing

**Halloween Costumes** — Need a new-to-you Halloween costume? The Fort Shafter Thrift Shop is selling and accepting consignment Halloween decorations and costumes throughout the month of October. The Fort Shafter Thrift Shop is open Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and Thursday, 12-4 p.m.

The Thrift Shop is located on Pierce Street, Building 342, Fort Shafter, past the post exchange. Call 842-1074. Volunteers are always welcome.

**Father Daughter Ball** — The fourth annual Armed Services YMCA Father Daughter Ball is set for Nov. 6, 5:30-9 p.m., at the Nehelani. Tickets are currently on sale, and sell for \$40 per father-daughter pair and \$15 for each additional daughter. Call the Wheeler Army Airfield ASYMCA at 624-5645 for details.

**Twitter** — Follow the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii at [www.twitter.com/usaghi](http://www.twitter.com/usaghi).

**Facebook** — Get updates about U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii events on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/usaghawaii](http://www.facebook.com/usaghawaii).

**Food for Families** — The Armed Services YMCA at Wheeler Army Airfield has an emergency food locker that assists military families who are experiencing financial difficulty with a supply of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items. Call 624-5645.

**Family Resilience** — Family Resilience Nights are Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.,

**18 / Monday**  
**Education and Employment Symposium** — An Employment and Education Symposium is scheduled for Oct. 18, 9-10:30 a.m., Army Community Service, Schofield Barracks. Attendees can talk with employers about opportunities in Hawaii and learn about educational resources. Call 655-4227.

**22 / Friday**  
**Haunted House/Dance** — Middle school and high school students are invited to the Haunted House/Dance, Oct. 22, 7-9:30 p.m., sponsored by the Schofield Barracks Middle School/Teen Center. Student admission for Child, Youth and School Services members is \$3; nonmembers, \$4; and civilians, \$5. Call the Schofield Barracks Middle School/Teen Center at 655-0451.

## Ongoing

**Dance Classes** — Register today for the School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills Unlimited, or SKIES, hip-hop and ballroom dance classes. Classes are open to 6th-12th-graders and are offered every Monday, 4-5 p.m., for hip-hop; and from 5-6 p.m., for ballroom. Call 655-9818.

**Blue Star Card** — After your Soldier returns from deployment (not including rest and recuperation) your Blue Star Card is no longer valid for Blue Star Card special events and discounts.

The only benefits that do extend for 90 days after your Soldier redeploys are the 16 free hours of child care and the 20-percent-off for full-time/part-time care. E-mail [sarah.chadwick@us.army.mil](mailto:sarah.chadwick@us.army.mil) or call 655-0002.

**Arts & Crafts** — Visit the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center for creative fun:

•Basic quilting and sewing is taught every Tuesday, 6-8 p.m. Cost is just \$25 for the first class and \$5 for each additional class. Call 655-4202.

•Learn water color mixing and abstract techniques every Wednesday, 12-2 p.m. Four sessions are only \$50 and include all the supplies needed. Call 655-9042.

•Make lei every Thursday, 12-2 p.m. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$10. Call 655-4202.

•Join Mom and Tot Crafts if your little one enjoys arts and crafts. Create a fun project with your 3-5-year-old, every Thursday, 10-11 a.m.. Just \$3 covers the class and supplies. Call 655-4202.

**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.

at Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel, and Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., at the Main Post Chapel Annex, Schofield Barracks. Free dinner is provided.

**Hawaii Military Child Survey** — The Hawaii Military Child Survey, which focuses on Hawaii military service personnel and their school-age children, is available at <https://apps3.jhsph.edu/hawaiiqol/>. The study explores a range of issues related to schooling and education, such as academics; expectations, such as what people had heard about Hawaii schools, life in Hawaii and educational expectations; and family and child history. Call 438-4177.

**Religious Services** — A full list of all services, children's programs and educational classes the garrison's Religious Support Office offers can be found at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil). Click on "Religious Support," under the "Directorates & Support Staff" menu. Call 655-6644 or 833-6831.

**Operation Postcards** — Operation Postcards is a free service that allows anyone to send real, personalized postcards to active duty U.S. military personnel with an APO or FPO address. Visit [www.operationpostcards.com](http://www.operationpostcards.com). Select a photo, fill in the mailing address for any active U.S. service member with an APO or FPO designation, type a brief message, then "shoot it" by previewing the postcard.

A real, personalized postcard will be delivered to the Soldier, Airman, Sailor or Marine in a matter of days via the U.S.

Postal Service. Postcards can also be sent from smart phones by using the Shoot it! mobile app, which is available at <http://operationpostcards.com/download.aspx>.

## Worship Services

Additional religious services, children's programs, educational services and contact information can be found at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://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  
•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

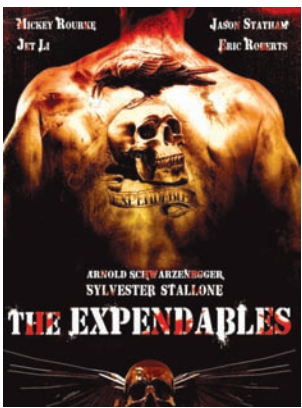
**Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)**  
•Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)  
•Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

**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](http://aafes.com) under realtime movie listing.



**The Expendables**  
(R)  
Fri., Oct. 8, 7 p.m.  
Sat., Oct. 9, 7 p.m.



**The Last Airbender**  
(PG)  
Sat., Oct. 9, 4 p.m.

**Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore**  
(PG)  
Sun., Oct. 10, 2 p.m.

*Closed*  
Wed., Oct. 13  
Thurs., Oct. 14

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.



Kim Lyons (left), listens while Hermosa Culver, 6, reads to Milo, a golden retriever, at the monthly Read to the Dogs event at Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Milo, a certified therapy dog, belongs to Lyons.

# Reading goes to the dogs

Story and Photos by  
**VICKEY MOUZÉ**  
Pau Hana Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A little girl in a striped, sleeveless dress sat on the carpet, reading a book to a companion.

She pointed to each word in a book and enunciated each syllable.

Her companion listened intently, not uttering a sound, even when the girl paused at a new, unfamiliar word.

The girl was Hermosa Culver, 6, and her companion was Milo, a 2-year-old golden retriever. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Justin and Sandra Culver brought Hermosa to the Sgt. Yano Library, here, recently, to participate in the library's monthly "Read to the Dogs" program.

Hermosa's 15-minute session was up too soon. As she exited the reading room, she said that the program was "great."

"Hermosa has been waiting for months for this day," said her mother. "She has been looking forward to it."

Kara Schwartz, an Army spouse, said that the program helps her daughter, Sarah, 7, who has been participating in the program for about a year.

"Sarah looks forward to the program," Schwartz said. "The dog doesn't care if Sarah makes a mistake and isn't going to correct her. The dog shows unconditional love."

The University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, recently conducted a study of third-grade students who read out loud to dogs for 10-15 minutes, once a week, for 10 weeks. The study found that the students' reading skills improved by 12 percent over a 10-week program.

"If a child reads to a dog or cat, or anything that is not judgmental, (the animals) don't laugh," said Susan Leuhrs, founder and executive director, Hawaii Fi-Do Service Dogs.

"Dogs look like they're listening, so (children) kind of forget that (they) are stuttering or don't know the words," Leuhrs said. "The dogs are trained to work with the kids, sit quietly ... and to look at the book. The idea of the read program is to hook the kids to come into the

## Read to the Dogs

Children who can read on their own can sign up for a 15-minute session to read to a trained, service dog. Sessions are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, call Sgt. Yano Library at 655-8002, or Aliamanu Library at 833-4851, or visit [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com). See more photos from Read to the Dogs at [www.flickr.com/photos/usag-hi/sets/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usag-hi/sets/).



Kim Lyons and Milo visit Tripler Army Medical Center in Milo's role as a Red Cross volunteer dog.

library and read."

Leuhrs' organization started bringing therapy and service dogs to Sgt. Yano Library four

years ago, after the library had shown interest in the reading program. On this particular day, four service dogs and their handlers accompanied Leurhrs to the library.

Leuhrs' dog, Kea, acted as a distractor while children waited their turn to read.

Some of the dogs have other jobs besides the reading program. Milo is a certified therapy dog and visits the wards at Tripler Army Medical Center. Milo's handler, Kim Lyons, said that he has been named a Red Cross Hero Dog.

Indy, short for Indiana Jones, is owned by Liane Otsuka, and is also a Red Cross volunteer dog that visits Tripler.

The next Read to the Dogs session will be held Oct. 9, at Sgt. Yano Library.

# Blue Star Card program receives large monetary donation

Story and Photo by  
**VICKEY MOUZÉ**  
Pau Hana Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A \$50,000 donation was presented to the Blue Star Card program, here, Friday, during a ceremony at the Nehelani.

The Fisher House Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides assistance to military families in need, provided the donation, which will be used to provide discounts and activities for spouses and families of combat deployed Soldiers.

Currently, 1,040 cardholders and 1,938 children are enrolled in the Blue Star Card program, run by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii.

Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, U.S. Army-Hawaii, and Sarah Chadwick, USAG-HI's Blue Star Card coordinator, accepted the donation on behalf of all Army families in Hawaii who have loved ones deployed overseas.

Theresa Johnson, manager, Fisher House, located at Tripler Army Medical Center, presented the check on behalf of the Fisher House Foundation.



Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general, USARHAW, expresses appreciation after accepting a \$50,000 donation from the Fisher House Foundation, Friday, at the Nehelani, on behalf of USARHAW Soldiers and families. The donation will be used for the local Blue Star Card program.

"I'm very honored to be here today to speak on behalf of the foundation," said Johnson, during the ceremony. "The idea behind the \$50,000 donation was to support families of deployed Soldiers."

Johnson said that David Cocker, president, Fisher House Foundation, views the donation as another means for the foundation to "spread its wings" and to see what other things the foundation can do to support military families.

The Fisher House Foundation, among other philanthropic activities, builds and then donates "comfort houses," where families of military personnel can stay during a loved one's hospitalization in major military installations and Veterans Affairs medical centers, such as the one at Tripler.

"The foundation wants to take care of our (military) families," Johnson said. "This (donation) is just one of the ways that they can do that."

Terry remarked that he was honored to accept the donation on behalf of all US-ARHAW Soldiers and families.

"What a wonderful day for the United States Army," he said. "Through this wonderful gift, we can help give something back to our families for the sacrifices they make every day in the defense of this nation."

Terry said that units, commanders, senior spouses and family readiness groups had been polled to help decide how the Blue Star Card program would disburse the donation. The approved list includes a "Super Saturday" respite child care day, free movie passes for children, free or discounted concert tickets, and discounted tickets for attractions on Oahu.

After the ceremony, Chadwick said that one of the most popular requests from Blue Star Card members is for discounted tickets at the Wet'n'Wild Hawaii water park. Chadwick also hopes to get free or discounted tickets for some concerts that will be held later in the year or early next year.

"We're really grateful to the Fisher House Foundation, and we'd like to thank them for providing support to our families," Chadwick said.

The Fisher House Foundation is also donating similar gifts to Fort Campbell, Ky., and Fort Stewart, Ga.

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# 8th TSC CSM reads to students at Fort Shafter School

Story and Photo by  
**MAJ. JEFF PARKER**  
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER – More than 50 children huddled on a single rug, captivated as Command Sgt. Maj. George Duncan, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, read “Verdi” in the Fort Shafter Elementary School cafeteria/auditorium, Sept. 29, as part of the Military Children Education Coalition’s “Tell Me A Story” program.

“‘Verdi’ is such an appropriate book for the kids here today,” Duncan said.

The story is about a young python who is growing into adulthood, experiencing similar struggles of children everywhere and confidently embracing the change of going into adulthood.

The MCEC, now endorsed by the Department of Defense, was developed in the late 1990s by parents who were concerned with the possible long-term affects that military lifestyles, including multiple moves, might have on their children. Military children often move from six to nine times, from their first day of kindergarten until high school graduation.

From its humble grassroots beginning, the worldwide organization still resonates its original commitment in its mission statement: “To ensure inclusive, quality educational experiences for all military children affected by mobility, family separation and transition.”

The Tell Me A Story program is only one



Ana Rojas sits with her dad, Capt. Geo Rojas, 8th TSC, during craft time, after hearing 8th TSC Command Sgt. Maj. George Duncan read “Verdi” at Fort Shafter Elementary School, Sept. 29.

branch of the MCEC, and it’s designed to “... empower our military children by using literature and their own stories in a way that fosters skills for resilience, strong peer and parent connections, a sense of pride and accomplishment, and a caring community,” according to [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org).

The Army sponsors local Tell Me A Story events through its own Parent-to-Parent program, which provides snacks and crafts for children, relative to the book’s theme. Locally, each child is provided with a free copy of the featured book.

Relying on donations and fundraisers, the



To learn more about the Tell Me A Story program, contact [tmas@militarychild.org](mailto:tmas@militarychild.org) or call (254) 953-1923.

Also, visit [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org) for more about the military-wide Military Children Education Coalition.

nonprofit MCEC spends about \$15 on each child who attends.

The MCEC approved booklist includes books that illustrate at least one of 23 traits found in positive and optimistic people.

“This year’s (trait) is personal growth,” said Sabina Dooley, program facilitator for the Fort Shafter event. “The three books we’re reading this year are ‘Verdi’ by Janell Cannon, ‘The Three Questions’ by Jon J. Muth and ‘The Remarkable Farkle McBride’ by John Lithgow.”

Dooley looks forward to hosting similar events at Webling and Wheeler elementary schools during this school year.

“It’s a very beneficial program for students of all ages and parents,” Dooley said, an active duty family member who has been working with the program in Hawaii since her arrival in 2008. “As long as there is a need, I plan on providing.”

# 82nd Engineers clear land to aid Helemano Plantation

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

WAHIAWA – Soldiers from the 82nd Engineer Support Company, 65th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, positioned bulldozers, dump trucks and backhoe loaders at the Helemano Plantation, here, Sept. 22, in preparation to clear five acres of land for the nonprofit organization.

The Helemano Plantation provides care and productive and developmental activities for mentally challenged adults, through real-world work programs.

The 65th Engineers and Helemano Plantation have worked together since 1980, when Susannah Chueng, originator of the plantation, sought the engineers’ help with clearing a piece of land

where the organization would lay down its infrastructure.

“In 1980, I went to see the general,” Chueng said, recalling the start of the 30-year partnership with the engineers. “The general then tells me to go to see the major. The next thing you know, the 65th Eng. Bn. has its big machines clearing land for infrastructure.”

Because of the longstanding relationship with the engineers, Chueng always knows exactly who to ask for when her organization needs help. The cleared land will aid in raising animals that will continue to support the ever-changing needs of the growing organization.

“As a nonprofit organization, having community outreach is integral in the sustainment of the program,” said 2nd Lt. Andrew Thoma, 3rd Platoon leader, 82nd ESC. “Clearing and grubbing land benefits the unit, as well as the plantation. We get to help the Wahi-

awa community and the Helemano Plantation.”

This mission not only reinforces what Soldiers have learned from past missions, but it also gives Soldiers, like Spc. Andrew Toner, an awareness of the surrounding community.

“From this mission, I have gained a sense of pride and accomplishment, as I worked side-by-side with my military counterparts, as well as my civilian counterparts,” Toner said.

The Soldiers are gaining real-life experiences, fostering solid relationships within the local community and working for a civilian organization that is constantly giving back to the community.

“It feels good to do work for an organization that works with the community and that helps adults who are mentally (disabled),” Thoma said. “Whenever you give back to the community, it is always a good thing.”



Soldiers assigned to the 82nd ESC, 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, clear and grub five acres of land, Sept. 22, for the nonprofit organization, the Helemano Plantation.



Cleared land will be used to raise animals that help support the Helemano Plantation. The plantation also grows produce, such as pineapples and papayas.

### Prepared for a hurricane?

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – The hurricane season runs through Nov. 30, so stay vigilant for turbulent shifts in weather.

If a hurricane is approaching Hawaii, you will learn about it from radio and TV news reports, collected from the National Weather Service in Honolulu.

Stay tuned to HACN TV2 in Island Palm Communities for specific guidance, respond to instructions on the IPC CallMax automatic telephone system and comply with directives from Military Police via public address systems.

Emergency shelters are located on Oahu Army installations. You will be advised when to proceed to your assigned shelter. When you get this notice, take your family and your emergency readiness kit to your assigned emergency shelter.

Review the IPC Hurricane Readiness pamphlet, now, which lists Oahu Army emergency shelters and items you should have in your readiness kit. Download the pamphlet at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil) – under the Emergency Management link on the left side, Hurricane Readiness Guide.

Call 655-0497 or 438-6996 for more details about Army disaster preparedness.

Off-post military and families must determine their area shelter from the local phone book, [www.scd.state.hi.us](http://www.scd.state.hi.us) or call 523-4122.