

Flight engineer dedicates self to aircraft

Deployed Forces

Story and Photo by
SPC. CASSANDRA MONROE
15th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE
SPEICHER, Iraq – Loyal and trustworthy are words rarely used to describe a relationship between a Soldier and an aircraft.

For Sgt. Alyssa Corcoran with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th General Support Aviation Brigade, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, that's exactly how she describes working as a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flight engineer.

"It's truly a very in-depth relationship," Corcoran said. "It's peaceful to sit in the back of the bird. It's getting away from here and just flying, and everything is just quiet. It's relieving."

The Chinook is such a large and complex aircraft, she added.

If one can work on a Chinook, one can basically work on any of the other helicopters because of the knowledge of both systems.

"A flight engineer can control the aircraft and control the passengers that they carry," said Corcoran, who is stationed at Wheeler Army Airfield.

"You should be able to troubleshoot the aircraft," she said. "The flight engineer is responsible for making the right

call on what you should do if you have engine failure, a fire in flight or other multiple problems."

As a flight engineer, Corcoran works in conjunction with pilots in command. She makes decisions for unexpected situations, such as unaccounted-for-cargo and weather conditions.

The flight engineer also helps with planning a mission out properly and ensuring it gets done.

Corcoran is a self-proclaimed problem-solver and troubleshooter, which makes a great match for what it takes to be a flight engineer.

This position, however, is not her first job in the Army.

"I first joined as a radio operator and was transferred to heavy radio systems," she explained. "I worked on a very old system that is not in the Army arsenal anymore, so my military occupational specialty became obsolete."

"I was almost forced to re-class as a computer systems analyst, and I didn't want to do that," she added. "I fought for a different MOS, and this one was available, so I took this job."

The hard fight paid off for Corcoran, who believes she has a more hands-on grasp of missions as a flight engineer.

"You get to see a lot more of the mission getting accomplished whether

you're pulling personnel out of Iraq, taking cargo and personnel from base to base, or assisting with mass casualty evacuations," she said. "You're where the mission actually gets accomplished."

Not only does Corcoran enjoy her job, but her crew members can't help but notice the hard work she puts into missions.

"Sgt. Corcoran is a highly motivated and proficient worker," said Spc. Joseph Keele, a Chinook crew mechanic with Company B, 3rd Bn., 25th GSAB, and Corcoran's crewmate. "She diligently studies the huge amount of crew manuals we have to be familiar with."

"To be a good crew chief, you need to be humble, be able to take criticism, and you need to be able to study," Corcoran said. "Having a good memory helps, because there's a lot of stuff to remember. You have to be consistent in what you do, put 100 percent forward every day, and you need to be intrinsically motivated."

According to Corcoran, the time she has spent as a flight engineer has been worthwhile.

"My favorite part of my job is owning the aircraft," Corcoran said. "I've had my own aircraft for four years now, and I don't think that I could find anything as loyal or as trustworthy."



Sgt. Alyssa Corcoran, a flight engineer with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th General Support Aviation Brigade, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, is stationed at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq.

Army Earth Day focuses on 'green' stewardship, commitment

ALEXANDRA HEMMERLY-BROWN
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Fort Knox, Ky., has good dirt, so by using ground-source heat pumps, the installation has been able to cut

its natural gas requirement in half.

Ground-source heat pumps are electrically-powered systems that tap into the earth's relatively constant temperature to provide heating, cooling and hot

water for buildings, explained Kevin Geiss, director for the Army's energy security program.

The base's soil is doubly efficient and produces Devonian shale, a fine-grained sedimentary rock that turns out methane

gas. Also, enough natural gas is harvested through the shale to last the summer months, Geiss said.

These efforts and many others align with the Army's goal of "Transforming the Army ... Sustaining the Environment."

Outlined in an Earth Day message signed by the chief of staff of the Army, secretary of the Army, and the sergeant major of the Army, the Army's theme for Earth Day 2010 focuses on environmental stewardship.

"Earth Day provides the Army with the opportunity to reassert our commitment to environmen-

tal sustainability and energy security, critical to protecting the earth, protecting lives and supporting our mission requirements," reads the message.

Twenty-eight major Army installations have long-term sustainability plans, which include seeking alternative energy methods and ensuring safe disposal of radioactive waste and conservation.

While Geiss recognizes that the Army's main purpose is national defense, he said considering the environment when conducting operations is a must.

"Without power and energy, the Army lies silent," said Geiss.

"The tanks don't run; the helicopters don't fly. We can't even conduct our training mission here in the U.S., without the electricity supporting those missions and operations ... it really is a thread that runs through everything that we do."

Geiss stated the Army doesn't get an "environmental free pass."

"At the end of the day, what the nation is asking us to do is to protect it. That's what we're measured upon. As we do that, the question is, have we engaged in all the feasible measures to ensure sustainability?" he said.

SEE EARTH, A-6



Expert paints vivid picture of Holocaust years during observance

Story and Photo by
BILL MOSSMAN
News Editor

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – The cataclysmic event known as the Holocaust might have been prevented if more people had courage to speak out against Nazi Germany’s systematic, state-sponsored plan of extermination during World War II.

That was just one of the messages to emerge from the special observance, “Holocaust Days of Remembrance,” held April 14, here, at Sgt. Smith Theater.

More than 200 Soldiers were on hand for the observance, held on the 65th anniversary of the liberation of survivors from many European extermination camps.

Through slides, short videos, diary entries and audio testimonies from survivors and their descendants, guest speaker Jennifer Ciardelli, program coordinator for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s outreach to military and government institutions, helped paint a vivid picture of the realities that faced Nazi Germany at the time.

Beginning with Adolph Hitler’s rise to power and the ongoing legislation to marginalize and remove European Jews from society, continuing on with the propaganda machine that altered citi-



Jennifer Ciardelli, program coordinator, U.S. Memorial Museum, expounds upon the attitudes of German society as a whole during the observance, “Holocaust Days of Remembrance,” April 14, Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks. The observance allowed more than 200 Soldiers in attendance to consider the events that led to Nazi Germany’s systematic extermination of some six million European Jews during World War II.

zens’ attitudes, and culminating with the development of overcrowded ghettos and concentration camps, Ciardelli aptly illustrated for audience members the rapid descent of Germany.

What was once a civilized democracy burgeoning with hope in the early 1920s, she noted, had spiraled into a decadent, genocidal state that ultimately carried out the annihilation of more

than 11 million people, including six million Jews.

But it was the indifference among Germany’s ordinary folks, who – as one survivor articulated in a short video – “followed orders without questioning,” that puzzled event speakers and audience members.

“There’s no denying that Hitler brought with him the capacity to cre-

ate a cult of followers,” Ciardelli noted. “But to say ... and I’ve heard people say this ... that Hitler was in charge, what else could they do? Or (to say) that everybody was brainwashed, well, I don’t think it was that easy.”

“People look back at the Holocaust and jump to Hitler and then jump right to the concentration camps,” said Col. Dana Tankins, commander, 516th Signal Brigade, who provided closing remarks for the event. “But going through history, we can see it was a lot more complicated than that.

“It was a total failure in social norms and values. It was a failure in respect and dignity for human life,” Tankins said, adding, if more people had taken a firm stand against such barbaric behavior, and if more people had repudiated what event master of ceremony Sgt. 1st Class Eli Handler, health care specialist with the 94th Army and Air Missile Defense Command, called “the most offensive four-letter word – hate,” history might have been altered.

“(But) people didn’t do that; people followed the flow,” Tankins said. “And we saw what the outcome was.”

At the time, the fabric of German society was not “made up of sadistic monsters,” according to Ciardelli.

“This was a society that was well-esteemed throughout the world. In the

1920s and 30s, it was well educated. It had prime music, culture and theater. In fact, American Soldiers who were serving in World War II, in their letters back home, talked about how much they preferred Germany over Britain or France in terms of its environment,” she explained.

“It’s clear that if Hitler in 1933 had proposed opening Auschwitz (concentration camp) and having a killing facility, that would not have been accepted,” Ciardelli continued. “Something happened in society that changed people’s attitudes and minds.”

In remembering one of the most tragic events in recorded annals, Ciardelli said that it was most important to learn from history’s tragic mistakes.

It’s precisely why the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is often referred to as “a living memorial,” she explained.

“If all we do is memorialize and think about the past, it doesn’t mean much for us in the contemporary,” she said.

“So the challenge is,” Ciardelli added, “for us to think about this history and to think about the points of relevance to us.”

The 516th Signal Brigade and Team Equal Opportunity Hawaii sponsored the event.

Stars and Stripes edition available on post



MIKE EGAMI

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS – Stars and Stripes, an independent newspaper for U.S. military members, is returning to Hawaii after more than six decades.

The first edition of Stars and Stripes U.S. Edition began at 100 locations on military installations, April 16.

Distribution of the free newspaper includes 21 locations at Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield, Tripler Army Medical Center and Fort Shafter.

The Pacific edition of Stars and Stripes Pacific was first produced May 14, 1945, in Hawaii, and then printed and shipped to Japan immediately following the end of World War II, Oct. 3, 1945.

“In one respect, Stars and Stripes is just really coming home to Hawaii,” said John Panasiwicz, Star and Stripes Pacific general manager.

With the Hawaii distribution, military members will receive a viable product that will compliment the efforts of the military’s role in the Pacific.

Stars and Stripes U.S. Edition has a blend of staffers that are career non-military journalists, military journalists and newspaper business operations professionals. The newspaper is a compilation of stories from Stars and Stripes reporters in the Pacific, Europe and the Middle East.

The paper also regularly embeds its staff reporters with troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“This allows Stars and Stripes to tell the military story in a fair and balanced format, better than any other news organization. It has been a hybrid within the newspaper industry and government for decades,” said Panasiwicz.

News Briefs

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

26/Monday

First-Termers – Financial Management Training First Termers is a mandatory eight-hour financial management course for first-term Soldiers, to provide them with a strong financial foundation, alternatives and strategies that will enhance their readiness throughout their career, April 26, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Schofield Barracks Army Community Service building. Call 655-4227.

Ongoing

Soldier Stories – Tripler Army Medical Center is looking for Soldiers to tell their story about their battle with and recovery from post-traumatic stress disorder or other behavioral health issues resulting from their combat tours.

The testimonials collected will encourage Soldiers to come forward and

seek medical care. Contact jan.clark@us.army.mil or 433-2809.

Flagler Closure – Flagler Road between Matthews Avenue and Lyman Road, on Schofield Barracks, is closed through May 9. Call 234-9102.

“A” Closure – Road “A” between Quad A and Quad B, or Waianae and Kolekole avenues, on Schofield Barracks, is closed through April 25.

Interactive Water Safety Tool – Test water safety I.Q. with the new U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center’s web-based Water Safety tool at https://safety.army.mil/Water Safety. Players will be presented with water safety challenges including swimming, jet-ski, life ringtoss and beach hazards.

Fort Shafter ACS Closure – The Fort Shafter Flats Army Community Service office will be closed until further notice. ACS services are available at the Tripler Army Medical Center office, Building 127A, Krukowski Road.

For Army Emergency Relief assistance, call 438-4499 or 655-4227.

Deploying Units – Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is available to come to pre-deployment family readiness group meetings to explain the benefits of the Blue Star Card program and to answer questions. Call 655-0002.

25th ID takes aim at sexual assault, harassment

SPC. MAHLET TESFAYE
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 25th Infantry Division is recognizing National Sexual Assault Awareness Month by continuing the Army’s program against sexual harassment and assault, and by encouraging leaders, Soldiers and family members to intervene wherever and whenever necessary.

In line with the Army “I. A.M Strong” campaign, the division is working on changing the way Soldiers and family members view sexual harassment and assault.

The division is implementing an aggressive plan of prevention and education, according to 25th ID Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Leota. The goal, he said, is to educate Soldiers and family members so they can prevent it from happening.

“On the prevention side, additional lighting has gone up all over base, and there are more staff duty doing more checks,” Leota said. “On the education side, we are having seminars and noncommissioned officer professional development to increase awareness of sexual harassment and assault information, knowledge and education.”

Representatives from the division’s Equal Opportunity office recently attended a Department of the Army-sponsored summit on sexual harassment and assault. The division’s EO office is launching a program that emphasizes to training personnel how to help sexual assault victims during weekly meetings with unit victim advocates.

“This training includes sharing best practices in preventing sexual assault; techniques, tactics and procedures in terms of admin, and training



Leota

manager.

The Department of Defense theme for Sexual Assault Awareness Month is “Hurts one, Affects all; Preventing sexual assault is everyone’s duty.” The theme focuses on Army values that Soldiers live by every day.

“(The) 25th ID’s plan is to build that conviction, to stay in the momentum, and to change the culture,” Guzman explained. “I absolutely believe because of the ‘I A.M. Strong’ campaign, more victims are coming forward and reporting sexual assault or harassment.”

A big part of the program is educating commanders and Soldiers on what to do to prevent sexual assault and reinforcing Army values and making sure there is good leadership training.

“Having the program in place, and having leaders reinforce the message, is the key to our success,” Leota said. “Conditions will change, but standards do not. The leadership is responsible for this program and (for) making sure that all of our Soldiers, every single one of them, are safe and have the confidence, the trust and the faith of leaders to take care of them.

“That is a leadership responsibility, and through this program, we can achieve that,” Leota emphasized.



Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown | Army News Service

The third annual Army Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention summit begins in Arlington, Va., March 29, with Army leaders urging commanders to help stop the crime. With an end goal of achieving cultural change, the Army hopes to reduce sexual crimes among the ranks by 50 percent within the next five years.

Memorial: Room offers space for reflection, remembrance

CONTINUED FROM A-1

killed downrange and some when they came back,” Schrader said.

“For me, being able to make sure that these Soldiers are immortalized for what they sacrificed is important to me,” he added.

What had been a regular office room in the brigade has now become the site for honoring fallen Bronco heroes.

The idea for the room found its start with Col. Walt Piatt, commander, 3rd BCT, who expressed his desire to memorialize the brigade’s fallen Soldiers by creating a display that could be moved if the brigade headquarters relocated in the future.

Sgt. 1st Class Jimmie Jackson, the brigade’s rear detachment operations noncommissioned officer, and Sgt. Patsy Morrisutu, a communication NCO, were the main contributors to the room’s conceptual interior design.

Schrader and Spc. Herbert Agal III served as the hands that put everything together.

“It’s a lot easier for someone to give back when they themselves have lost so much,” said Schrader, while somberly describing his passion behind the project.

The Soldiers who are honored in the memorial room served in the brigade’s three deployments during overseas contingency operations. The Broncos served in Afghanistan from 2004-2005, and in Iraq from 2006-2007, and again from 2008-2009.

When the room is completed, Soldiers who lost their lives in the Korean and Vietnam wars will also be featured in the memorial room.

Inside the room, a computer kiosk, designed by Morrisutu, continuously displays photos and a

brief bio of each of the fallen Soldiers.

The kiosk is flanked by fallen Soldier tribute stands, with Army combat helmets resting atop M4 rifles, which are embedded into the base of the stands. The fallen Soldiers’ dog tags motionlessly hang from the rifles.

“For me, being able to make sure that these Soldiers are immortalized for what they sacrificed is important to me.”

— **Cpl. Donald Schrader**
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID

Additionally, the four walls of the room are painted in a deep red — a color that brigade members hope truly commemorates the sacrifices of its Soldiers.

“We wanted to create a room that would have a somber atmosphere where family, friends and Soldiers could go in and reflect on the sacrifices their battle buddies or family members made during the global war on terrorism,” said Jackson.

“I see this room will exceed our expectations in providing comfort to those who enter (it),” added Schrader. “When they see all of the time and dedication that was put into this room, it will really pull at the heartstrings of the viewers.

“These Soldiers are not going to be just names on a wall. We are making sure (with this memorial room) that our Soldiers are never forgotten, and what they did wasn’t for nothing,” he said.

The memorial room will be dedicated and open for public viewing in F Quad, here, May 20.

Automation to improve Post-9/11 GI Bill processing

DONNA MILES

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With 153,000 veterans enrolled in the Post-9/11 GI Bill this semester, and new automation tools to arrive this month to improve processing procedures, Eric Shinseki, secretary of Veterans Affairs, declared the program “on track” and headed toward greater efficiency.

Shinseki acknowledged during an interview with American Forces Press Service that the Post-9/11 GI Bill got off to a rocky start after taking effect last August.

He said he was surprised when many colleges and universities took months to submit student enrollment certificates so that VA could begin cutting checks to schools and enrollees.

“They must be well-endowed,” Shinseki said of schools that covered up-front costs of students’ tuition, room and board without seeking prompt reimbursement. “But because I don’t have that certificate, I haven’t paid them tuition. But neither have I paid kids their monthly living stipend or their books, because they are all tied together.”

By the second week of December, the end of the fall semester, VA was still receiving 1,500 to 2,000 certificates of enrollment a day for students who had been attending schools since August, he said.

In fact, some are still trickling in to the VA.

“We learned a lot. We learned we had to talk to 6,500

schools and say, ‘We have got to do better,’” Shinseki said. “We needed to work with them and explain to them that ‘whether you think it is important or not, the veteran doesn’t get paid until you send us this certificate of enrollment.’ So for the veteran’s sake, we need to do better.”

Shinseki credited VA staff members with stepping up to the plate, contacting schools directly to solicit those enrollment certificates, then going into overdrive to manually process thousands of certificates a day.

He convened a late-night meeting in November, bringing together the education directors from VA’s regional offices to come up with ways to further speed up the processing.

“We took out steps that were redundant,” he said. “In the process, we have simplified and re-engineered the business process ... We have worked the bugs out of an imperfect system.”

By the end of the fall semester, he said, all 173,000 enrollees were being paid through this new process.

As of Feb. 1, 131,000 of the 153,000 students enrolled in the system were being paid, and VA was “knocking down” the remaining certificates at a rate of about 7,000 a day, he noted.

“So I feel pretty good about how this is going,” Shinseki said. “Our numbers are up, and our payments are up, and we still don’t have an automated tool.”

The first of those new tools is set to come online this month, with more capabilities to follow in July, November and December. By the year’s end, Shinseki said, the

system will be fully automated.

“I think we are on a good track,” he said.

“Now, when automation comes, we are going to have a tremendous gain.”

Shinseki said he’s counting on lessons learned implementing the Post-9/11 GI Bill to carry over as VA tackles its major challenge this year: reducing the disability claims backlog.

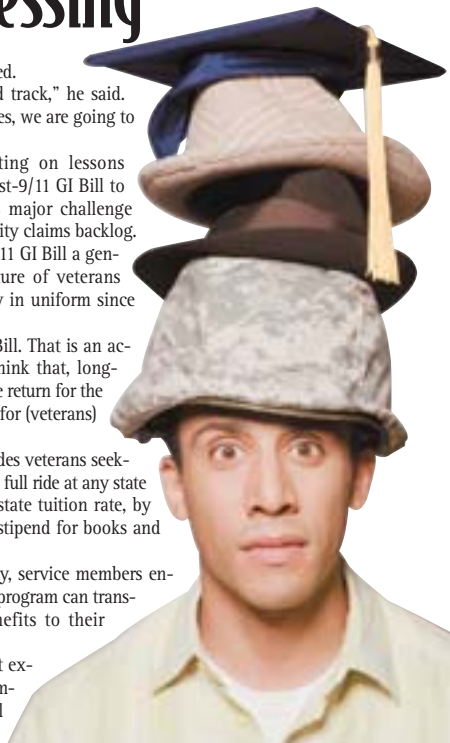
Shinseki called the Post-9/11 GI Bill a generous investment in the future of veterans who have served the country in uniform since Sept. 11, 2001.

“I feel good about the GI Bill. That is an accomplishment,” he said. “I think that, long-term, this is going to be a huge return for the country, and it is a huge step for (veterans) and their lives.”

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides veterans seeking an undergraduate degree a full ride at any state institution at the highest in-state tuition rate, by state, along with a semester stipend for books and a monthly living stipend.

For the first time in history, service members enrolled in the Post-9/11 GI Bill program can transfer unused educational benefits to their spouses or children.

The living stipend does not extend to active duty service members receiving Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.



Billing: Launches in 2011

CONTINUED FROM A-1

much electricity they use, provide assistance to those who are high electricity users, and prepare families for actual billing.”

At AHFH, residents only will be billed for electricity and actual billing will begin in 2011. A specific date will be determined by the USAG-Hawaii commander.

In accordance with OSD policy, actual billing must begin no more than 12 months after the launch of the mock billing program.

Ridding-Johnston also explained to families how their average household electricity use, referred to as a baseline, is established.

Further, she explained what information will be included on utility consumption reports and available resources.

“AHFH is determined to provide families with information and resources to help them come under their baselines and realize the benefits of the program,” she said.

Residents will receive valuable information from programs such as AHFH’s Saving Your Nation’s Energy, or SYNERGY.

Residents will also have access to information and resources on the AHFH website.

In addition, they will have website access to Ista, the company that manages data collection and energy consumption reports for AHFH.

Community managers, as well as a full-time utilities manager, are also available to assist families.

Decals: Register at VRO

CONTINUED FROM A-1

insurance to the VRO of their choice. Motorcyclists must also show completion of a valid Department of Defense-approved safety course.

Vendors and contractors with commercial vehicles who do business on Army installations on a regular basis can receive extended passes for individual and fleet vehicles, for periods up to six months, by registering their vehicles at the VROs. Vehicle fleet managers should call ahead to the VRO to coordinate a convenient time.



Maj. Deanna Bague | Fort Bliss Public Affairs

Spc. Dean Kalogris, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fort Bliss, Texas, charges the installation’s command sergeant major’s electric car, which has been in use for about nine months. The cars, which are made from recycled plastic and can reach speeds of 25 miles per hour, are driven by the base leadership as a demonstration of their commitment to helping keep energy costs down and protecting the environment.

Earth: Green efforts reinforce readiness

CONTINUED FROM A-3

Tad Davis, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health, agreed with Geiss and said the Army does its best to be a good steward of its four million acres of land.

“The importance of Earth Day to the Army is huge because it allows us to reaffirm our commitment to environmental stewardship, development and implementa-

tion of sustainable practices and energy security,” Davis said. “We believe these efforts will reinforce the readiness of the Army and enhance our ability to accomplish the mission.”

Davis said that considering the environment is an obligation when taking on any Army project.

“There’s a tremendous amount of things that we’ve done that we can take great pride in, but there are also a lot of things we

need to do so that we can preserve this planet for future generations of Americans to enjoy,” Davis explained.

He also talked about the Department of Defense’s goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions down by 34 percent by 2020, an effort that parallels the Army’s goal to narrow its “carbon boot print.”

Similarly, the DoD tries to reduce the use of radioactive material by recycling items, whenever possible.

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

PAU HANA

www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/haw.asp

“When work is finished!”

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation | Courtesy Photo

The Directorate of Public Works' female tug-of-war team heaves and hoes to take home first place honors at this year's Garrison Organization Celebration, at the picnic, held April 16, outside of the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks.



Offices, directorates and personnel interact with and compete against each other during a variety of activities

STEPHANIE RUSH

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Continuing with a tradition going back more than 20 years, garrison employees took time out of their busy schedules to have some fun, here, April 13-16, during the annual Garrison Organization Celebration.

“(U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii) celebrates its anniversary by hosting a Garrison Organization Celebration each year,” said Stacy Harding, chief, Recreation Division, and overall GOC coordinator, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The weeklong celebration kicked off with bowling, a golf scramble, a 5K fun run/walk and then ended with a picnic at the Nehelani, where garrison employees and their families competed in additional games such as bunco, Texas Hold ‘Em and bingo.



For more photos, visit www.flickr.com/usag-hi.

New to this year's GOC was an initiative nicknamed “GOC Goes Green,” which included a recycling drop off, and book and CD swap. The initiative was sponsored by the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, program.

“BOSS collected used eyeglasses and cell phones from the garrison employees and will be donating them to local charities,” explained McKenna Elder, recreation specialist and acting BOSS installation president, Tropics Recreation Center, FMWR. “BOSS also collected used CDs and books, and the products were



Stephanie Rush | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Clint German, safety specialist, Directorate of Installation Safety, makes sure steak and sausages are cooked to perfection. Each year, employees are able to pick up a catered lunch at the Garrison Organization Celebration picnic, but many directorates and staff offices come together to grill out and enjoy each other's company. DIS's tent also featured a seafood boil, fried catfish, steamed shrimp, barbeque and short ribs, oysters and a variety of side dishes brought in by employees.

exchanged between the employees at the picnic in attempts to recycle rather than throw the products in the trash.”

Other new activities included a Texas Hold ‘Em tournament, a cooking competition and the return of tug of war, with the Directorate of Public Works winning both the male and female categories.

“The purpose of GOC is to promote a healthy, competitive spirit and build relationships among all the directorates across the garrison,” Harding said.

One organization that took GOC's purpose to heart was the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security's Range Division. A group of more than 10 range civilians and contractors participated in nearly every one of GOC's events. Most visible was their participation in the 5K Fun Run/Walk, where they made up more than a third of the total participants and wore matching red T-shirts.

“After training together for a few months, we thought (the 5K) would be the perfect media to try our wings,” said Stephanie Austin, environmental coordinator and a run participant, Range Division, DPTMS.

“Another important factor was that this was a garrison event,” Austin added. “Range Division is very supportive of (not only each other, but) our Soldiers, and the garrison as well, and we wanted to show it.

“Early finishers re-entered the track to cheer on and support the later finishers,”

SEE GARRISON, B-5



Jack Wiers | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

The Winners Circle

Bowling, April 13

•Scratch

1st- Schofield Bowling, DFMWR (Wayne Akagi, Brandon Oshiro, Jamie Mattos and Katsuhiko Miki)

2nd- Security Office #2, DPTMS (Suzanna Irie, Jason Manning, Shirley Steinhoff and Pranot Chivaluksna)

3rd- Fort Shafter DPW #8 (Vi Aloy, Kevin Rost, Norman Chang and Louis Kalani)

•Handicap

1st- Fort Shafter Bowling, FMWR (Lani Ring, Dion Salon, Robert Nagasako and Bernard Godoy)

2nd- USAG-Oahu #3 (Sherry Robinson, Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl Jannone, Petra Richardson and Lowan Proctor-Lampkin)

3rd- 3302nd MSB #1 (Capt. Clarence Tenorio, Sgt. 1st Class Joycelyn Manoa, Sgt. 1st Class Rosa Fale and 1st Lt. Ying Huang)

Golf, April 14

•Closest to the Pin #2

Stephanie Austin, DPTMS

Paul Ganade, DFMWR

•Closest to the Pin #17

Kerwyn Yonesaki, DPW

5K Fun Run/Walk, April 15

•Females

1st- Svetlana O'Malley, DPW, 26:37

2nd- Sharee Evans, DHR, 34:41

3rd- Eva Perez, DPTMS, 37:36

•Males

1st- James Brown, USAG-Oahu, 19:36

2nd- David Monroy, DPTMS, 20:52

3rd- Peter Anzalone, DPW, 23:03

Texas Hold 'Em, April 16

•Kekua Aumua, DPTMS

Bunco, April 16

•Most Buncos: Lileth Rivera, DHR

•Most Wins: Nita Truss, DPW

•Most Mini Buncos: Modesto Cordero, DPW

•Most Losses: Jaci Gavnik, DFMWR

Bake Off, April 16

•Carissa Gardner, DHR, Butterfinger Cheesecake

Tug of War, April 16

•Females: DPW

•Males: DPW

Left: Bert Kawahara, project engineer, Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, lines his final shot up at the Golf Scramble, April 14.



Stacy Harding | Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Ben Alarcio, survey examiner, Directorate of Logistics, crosses the finish line with a time of 41:39 at this year's Garrison Organization Celebration 5K Fun Run/Walk, held April 15, on Schofield Barracks. Behind him, Ken Torre runs the final few yards with Stephanie Austin, his coworker at Range Division, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. Ten Range Division employees ran the race together, with earlier finishers going back to motivate each other.



Today

Home Alone Classes — Home Alone Classes are for children 9-11 years old, April 23, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; or May 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel. Children will learn important safety information, first aid, fire safety and stress awareness. Call 655-1670.

Furlough Fridays — The next Furlough Friday is April 23, and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation has families covered with a variety of options for students and teens in all grades. Programs offered at Child, Youth and School Services and Army Community Services.

Download your FMWR Furlough Friday activity program guide at www.mwrmhawaii.com. Click on "CYSS."

Furlough Friday days are scheduled April 30, and May 7 and 14.

24 / Saturday

SKIES — Join A Day of Fantasy, Fables, Fairy Tales and Fun, at Wheeler Middle School Auditorium, April 24, 10 a.m.

Kids experience dance, theater and music with free tickets from the Army's School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills. Call 655-9818.

Ceramic Pouring — Visit the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center, April 24, for a ceramic pouring class that costs \$25 for three classes. Classes are available at Fort Shafter as well. Call 655-4202 or 438-1315.

Island Tour — The Army Community Service Island Tour is available to newcomers, April 24. Bus departs from Schofield Barracks Army Community Service building, 8 a.m. Call 655-4227 or 438-4499.

25 / Sunday

Read to the Dogs — Children who are able to read on their own can sign up for a 15-minute session to read to a dog, April 25, 3:30-4:45 p.m., Fort Shafter Library. Call 438-9521.

27 / Tuesday

Quilting & Sewing Class — Join the Schofield Barracks Arts & Craft Center, April 27, to make a personalized quilt.

The Arts & Crafts Center has quilting classes, Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Fort Shafter; or Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., at Schofield.

Cost is \$18 for the first session and \$4 for each additional session. Call 655-4202.



Send announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

Earthday Festival — Join Army Hawaii Family Housing and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii at the Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks, April 23, 12-3 p.m., for storytelling, crafts, relays and exhibits. Children need to bring helmets for bike rodeo. Call 656-7221 or 479-2064.

eWaste Recycling — The 9th Theater Support Group Environmental Division hosts free, unlimited eWaste recycling, April 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats. Recycle home electronics like computers, fax machines, printers, telecom equipment, cell phones and paper. Call 438-1600, ext. 3307.

24 / Saturday

Spaghetti Bingo — The Leilehua High School Band Booster Association invites the public to the Spaghetti Bingo Family Night at the Leilehua High School cafeteria, 5:30-8:30 pm.

The event includes dinner, 2 bingo cards and a drawing ticket for \$10. Call 224-4080 or visit www.leilehuaband.org.

Grow Hawaiian Festival — The 3rd Annual Grow Hawaiian Festival is April 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Great Lawn, Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

Enjoy educational booths and hands-on demonstrations including kapa making, natural dyes and traditional weaving, music and entertainment, a native Hawaiian plant sale and Hawaiian food booths. Event is free for kamaaina and military with ID. Visit www.bishopmuseum.org.

28 / Wednesday

Internet Crimes — Wheeler Middle



Tara Scully | Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

A day in the sun

WAIANAE — A Hawaiian Monk Seal beaches itself recently at Piilaa Army Recreation Center. PARC is located on Pokai Bay. PARC is one of the best beach facilities on the island for swimmers, snorkelers and scuba enthusiasts. Capturing the essence of "old Hawaii," the facility has 39 beachfront cabins available for rent. For more information, visit www.mwrmhawaii.com/lodging/parc.

Happy Parent — Come to a stress reduction class for parents and caregivers April 27, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Army Community Services building; or 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., April 29, at Aliamanu Military Reservation. Call 655-1670.

PT in the Park — Soldiers and families are invited to join Mickey Mouse and Friends, April 27, 6:30-7 a.m., at Fort Shafter Gym, for 30 minutes of aerobic exercise followed by a continental breakfast. Participants should bring a towel. Call 655-6465.

28 / Wednesday

Family Team Building — The level 1 course is designed to assist Soldiers and Families obtain the skills necessary to navigate through the military environment, April 28-29, 5-9 p.m., Building 2091 on Kolekole Avenue, Schofield Barracks.

This class will discuss expectations and impact of the Army lifestyle, clarify acronyms and provide an introduction to family readiness groups and community resources.

Contact 655-1703 or catherine.baldwin@us.army.mil.

Resume Writing — A civilian resume writing class is April 28, 9-10:30 a.m., at the Schofield Barracks Army Community Service. Call 655-4227.

School hosts the Hawaii Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, April 28, 12:45-2 p.m. Call 622-6525.

29 / Thursday

Rock Around the Clock — Watch swing dancers, learn simple dance steps, shop the book fair and eat a scrumptious steak dinner grilled on site (cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for kids) at the Book Fair Diner, April 29, 5-7 p.m., at Hale Kula Elementary School. Call 622-6380, ext. 232.

Moon Over Monte Carlo — Join the Children's Alliance of Hawaii for its annual fundraiser for programs supporting sexually abused children, April 29, 6-9:30 p.m.

The night of casino excitement at the Sheraton Waikiki will feature live entertainment, casino-type games, live and silent auctions, a sit-down dinner and the chance to mingle with celebrity casino players. Tickets are \$175. Call 599-2955, ext. 227.

Dole Luau — Tickets are on sale for the Third Annual Dole Plantation Benefit Luau for the Waialua High School Robotics Team until April 30.

The event will feature Hawaiian food, a silent auction and live musical entertainment, May 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m., and will support the team and its travel to competitions across the nation. Tickets are \$40. Visit www.dole-plantation.com.

AAFES Photo — They say that a picture is worth 1,000 words but a mere 50 describing a picture could fetch a digital camera and a \$500 shopping spree in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's contest through April 31.

Authorized exchange shoppers can send a photo and story of their military service, either active-duty or civilian, along with a 50-word description to PatriotFamily@aafes.com.

May

1 / Saturday

Lei Day Celebration — This free cul-

Exceptional Family Member Program — Families have an opportunity to share experiences, gather new information and become knowledgeable about community resources.

SHARE Support Group will meet April 28, 6-8 p.m., Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel. Call 655-4791/1551.

Lunch and Learn — Parenting series will enrich the parenting experience for you and your 1-to 4-year old, April 28; 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Schofield Barracks Army Community Services.

Learn how to recognize developmental milestones and understand how to respond to difficult behavior in children. Call 655-1670.

29 / Thursday

Mom & Tot Crafts — Bring your toddler, ages 3-5, to create a fun project together, April 29, 10-11 a.m., at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center.

Join the fun every Thursday at the same location and time. Class costs \$3. Call 655-4202.

Ongoing

Hawaiian Luau — Experience "old Hawaii" with the Sunset Café's Island Luau

featuring authentic Hawaiian cuisine and a hula show at the Hale Koa, in Honolulu.

All children under 17 years old receive a free goodie bag or gift. Month of the Military Child special ticket prices are not combinable with any other offer.

Visit www.halekoa.com or call 955-0555, ext. 546.

Homeschool PE Classes — Army Youth Services offers physical education for the homeschooled child, 10-11 a.m. at Aliamanu and Fort Shafter. Call 836-1923.

Schofield Barracks, Helemano and Wheeler classes are Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Call 655-6465.

Kilauea Military Camp — Take advantage of limited time offers at the joint services recreation center like a Bed & Breakfast Special, enter "CABB" under the comment section; or for 20 percent off KMC Tours, enter "LT0920" under the comment section.

Visit www.kmc-volcano.com or call 967-8371.

EDGE! — The EDGE! Program is free for Blue Star Card holders the first week of every month. EDGE! offers out-of-school opportunities for children and youth ages 6-18, to participate in cutting-edge art, fitness, life skills and adventure activities.

Call Kristine.Yasuda@us.army.mil or 656-0095.

This week on



Native Hawaiian Covenant Signing

Daily at 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Share the experience captured by TV2 as leaders from U.S. Army Hawaii and the Native Hawaiian community pledge mutual respect and support at this historic one-hour event at Fort DeRussy.

tural event features the Lei Queen & Court, hula, crafts and food booths and live entertainment, May 1, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Kapiolani Park in Honolulu. Visit www.honolulu.gov/parks/programs/leiday/.

3 / Monday

Scholastic Book Fair — Shop the Hale Kula Elementary School book fair May 3-6, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Profits from books sales help purchase books and equipment for classrooms. Call 622-6380, ext. 232.

8 / Saturday

Pineapple Festival — The Wahiawa Pineapple Festival and Parade is May 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Wahiawa District Park, and will showcase the history of the different ethnic groups and food and craft booths from different cultures. The parade kicks off at 9 a.m., along California Avenue. Call 621-0043.

Musical Adventure — The Sounds of Aloha Chorus present "An American Musical Adventure (on a Dark and Stormy Night)," May 8, 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m., at the Hawaii Theater. Military discounts are available. Visit www.hawaiitheater.com or call 528-0506.

Safety Fair — Honolulu Police Department Drug Abuse Resistance Education and Gang Resistance Education and Train-

ing programs are organizing a Safety Fair to encourage youth to make safe and productive choices, May 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Uptown Center Court.

Learn about youth sports, drug and gang resistance programs, traffic safety, visits from the Specialized Services Division and keiki IDs. Call 488-0981.

9 / Sunday

Mother's Day Lunch and Cruise — Treat mom to a relaxing Mother's Day in paradise, aboard the Star of Honolulu, May 9, 12-2:30 p.m., Aloha Tower Marketplace, Pier 8.

The champagne cruise features a buffet, door prizes, whale watching and cultural activities. Special military rates are available. Call 983-7827 or visit www.starofhonolulu.com.

Voices of Resistance — Hawaii Pacific University literary, performing and visual arts students present "Voices of Resistance," 4 p.m., May 9, at Hawaii Theatre. Visit www.hawaiitheatre.com or call 528-0506.

Ongoing

Family Resilience — Family Resilience Nights are Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., at Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel; and Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., at Main Post Chapel Annex, Schofield Barracks. Free dinner is provided.



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

•Friday, 9 a.m. at AMR
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at FD, TAMC and WAAF chapels
•Saturday, 6 p.m. a Hawaiian-style Mass (May-Aug. only) near the Army Museum (FD)
•Sunday services:
-7:30 a.m. at WAAF
-8 a.m. at AMR
-10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
-11 a.m. at TAMC
•Monday-Friday, noon at MPC and TAMC

Gospel Worship

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

Islamic Prayers and Study

•Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
•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

Orthodox Divine Liturgy

•Sunday, 9 a.m. at TAMC

Pagan (Wicca)

•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

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



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



She's Out Of My League

(R)
Fri., April 23, 7 p.m.
Thu., April 29, 7 p.m.

Leap Year

(PG)
Sat., April 24, 4 p.m.



Remember Me

(PG 13)
Sat., April 24, 7 p.m.

Tooth Fairy

(PG)
Sun., April 25, 2 p.m.

Our Family Wedding

(PG 13)
Wed., April 28, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

USO brings well-known photographer to schools, posts

Story and Photo by
LACEY JUSTINGER
Pau Hana Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — Not many people have the ability to render a room completely silent just by walking into it.

This isn't true for Nigel Barker, fashion photographer and judge on the reality television show "America's Next Top Model."

Barker visited Hawaii schools with large military children populations during a USO celebrity-education tour in Hawaii, April 12-14, part of the USO's Month of the Military Child activities.

As the 6-foot, 4-inch celebrity strolled into a classroom full of chattering photography level three and four students at Leilehua High School, silence descended. Then came an explosion of movement and cacophony of sound as students scrambled for their cell phones and cameras while giggling, chatting and blushing.

Barker visited Leilehua, Radford and Moanalua high schools and Aliamanu Middle School, as well as spent some time meeting with military photographers at Hickam Air Force Base and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"As a military mom, it's important to know celebrities care about our children, and (the visit) teaches everyone that giving back to the community makes a huge difference," said Nicole Darity, USO Hawaii programs manager.

Barker spoke to large and small assemblies about gaining and portraying personal confidence, following their dreams and embracing life, and harnessing the power of creativity.

"It's your own personal journey of trial and error, and passion. Live without regrets," Barker said. "All the mistakes I have made in my life are important to me. I am the sum of my imperfections; that's what makes me unique."



Nigel Barker, an international fashion photographer and judge on "America's Next Top Model," discusses the importance of self-confidence in the pursuit of personal dreams with high school students during a USO celebrity-education tour at local schools with large populations of military children.

He continued, "Believe in yourself; no one else will until you do. Find yourself. Follow your own visions and dreams."

During his talk, Barker showed students a collection of his work from shoots, including a recent trip to Haiti and "from America's Next Top Model," one of the longest running reality shows on televisio; and he allowed students to examine one of his cameras up close.

"This was a great opportunity for students to hear real-life experiences from a well-known photographer," said Keith Sasada, Leilehua photography teacher. "This will inspire them and show that they have to find their own path within themselves. We have a lot of military dependents here and that helps because they learn from one another by sharing experiences."

"This was really cool, learning photography from someone of his caliber," said Kendyll Barnett, daughter of Staff Sgt. Donald Sumner, 25th Infantry Division.

Barker also volunteers his services to organizations like Make-a-Wish and the Humane Society to tell the personal stories and give a face to the charities to encourage personal involvement.

"Think about all the iconic moments in history," Barker said, prompting students. "We remember the event by the photograph; there is always a photo that goes along with it. That's what makes photography so powerful."

Barker referenced military "combat camera" photographers who document history throughout the world.

He was inspired by one combat photographer's viewpoint — that any one photo a service member takes can

potentially send troops home or keep them in combat zones longer.

"Combat photographers and military photographers put themselves in harm's way to tell a story, while working as Soldiers, at the same time, and saving lives," Barker said. "The use of photography is so important in the military. The photographs they take could potentially save troops as well as let people at home know that they are safe or that things are getting better or worse."

Barker once contemplated pursuing a military medical career and has a couple of relatives who have served in the military.

These reasons were part of his decision to do the USO tour and to personally thank service members and families for what they do daily.

"We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the services," said the photographer. "We can learn from their ability to be active, the way they handle themselves in public and their people skills."

Barker was inspired with the strength of military parents, stating, "Some don't see their kids for months on end. I am away from my kids two weeks, at the most, but it's still terrible. I miss them even when they go to bed."

Barker said, multiple times, he is willing to "embed" with troops and would be "amazed" to go on a USO tour in Afghanistan.

To embed as a photographer attached to a military unit during conflict operations would be a "great opportunity to tell the human story to a huge global audience," he said.

He noted the power of Steve McCurry's photograph titled "Afghan Girl," from a 1985 "National Geographic" cover that jump-started his interest in the field.

"It's equally important, in a big or small setting, to inspire people," he said. "To be a role model with a more serious message is a real powerful tool."

8th TSC volunteers tutor, teach value of reading to local students

Story and Photo by
SGT. RICARDO J. BRANCH
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Most children prefer video games and movies over books, so Soldiers of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command are helping to bring children back to the basics of learning, by the opening a book.

For three 8th TSC Soldiers visiting the Gustav H. Webling Elementary School, their trip served a special purpose: to make a difference in second graders' lives through reading.

"I just feel that kids can always use a little help, so I wanted to do my part for the community," said Sgt. 1st Class Jaime Pieniazek, assistant inspector general, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th TSC. "It really makes you feel good about yourself when you donate your time to making a difference in someone's life through reading."

Pieniazek has been deployed to Iraq and wanted to show people not in the military that there's another side to being a Soldier rather than just being a warfighter.

"It's important to let people know we're not just about fighting for our country," she said. "We may go to other countries to help overseas, but we also do our part here at home to better the places that we live here in Hawaii."

During the tutoring, Pieniazek was paired with 8-year-old Courtlen Naylon, a 2nd grader at Webling Elementary, to read about African-American inventors and their impact on American society.

Pieniazek's role was to help Naylon understand the big words kids often stumble on while reading schoolbooks.

"Benjamin Banneker was famous for his almanac, as well as his



Sgt. 1st Class Jaime Pieniazek, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, listens to Courtlen Naylon, a 2nd-grader, read during a tutoring session, April 12, at Gustav H. Webling Elementary School. The 8th TSC makes routine trips to the school as part of a community outreach program to help out the schoolchildren in their district.

clock," Naylon said. "He did a lot for America."

As Naylon continued reading, she would pause and look at Pieniazek and ask her the meaning of certain words. The visit lasted for an hour, but the impact will remain longer in many of the 2nd graders' lives.

For Naylon, the visit showed her one thing: Soldiers are more than just fighters; they are people, too.

"She was really nice," Naylon said. "I had a good time reading with her. Reading is really important, and I can't wait till she comes back."

Pieniazek described the visit as one she will cherish for a long time to come.

"The 8th TSC does a real good job staying involved in the community," she said. "I never really took the time out to get involved with some of the programs we do like this, and I regret it now."

To learn more about volunteer opportunities that make a difference in students' lives, contact 8th TSC Special Troops Battalion at 438-5527.

"The community supports us so much when we are deployed downrange, so when we're back, we have to give back in ways like this so they know we appreciate all they do for us," she added.

Wallyne Nakamura, Naylon's teacher, added, "Reading is the foundation to make it easier to comprehend other subjects and learn the world around you. Just opening a book opens doors for any child, and it's great ... to share this experience with the Soldiers."

"To kids here," Nakamura continued, "it's a thrill to have that personal contact with the folks in the military, and it really builds on their confidence to receive that extra help."

Many Hawaii schools, like Webling, are part of the U.S. Pacific Command's Joint Venture Education Forum's school partnership program. The Army is currently partnered with 51 public schools throughout Hawaii in the Partnership of Ohana community relations program.

Students add fruit to their diet, campus

Story and Photo by
BILL MOSSMAN
News Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — In an effort to take better care of both their bodies and the environment, Wheeler Elementary School students teamed up with parents, faculty members and volunteers, earlier this week, and expanded their orchard by planting 42 organic fruit trees and shrubs around the Wahiawa-based campus.

Thanks to a generous donation made possible through the Fruit Tree 101 program, dozens of students were able to plant a variety of nature's most-edible delights — specifically star fruits, avocados, oranges, bananas, lemons, mangos and grapefruits — over a two-day period, April 18 and 19.

“If children learn to care for the trees, the trees will keep giving.”

— **Katherine Drotos**
Fruit Tree Planting Foundation

The planting also included several varieties of fruits that many students hadn't ever experienced before — namely miracle berries and Peanut Butter Fruit.

The program came courtesy of the international nonprofit organization, The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation, and the Stretch Island Fruit Co.

Katherine Drotos, the foundation's health educator, said that part of the program's aim was to educate students about the benefits of caring for their bodies. To reinforce this idea, Stretch Island Fruit Co., provided planting participants with delicious snacks made from real fruit.

“We want the children to understand where fruit comes from, and that's important for us to have fruit in our diet every single day,” explained Drotos.

Drotos said Wheeler Elementary was the fourth school to benefit from the Fruit Tree 101 program, since the foundation began tree planting at Oahu's public schools three years ago.

“The American Heart Association recommends four to five servings of fruit every day, and unfortunately, we know that not everybody is getting that amount,” Drotos said.

Additionally, the program also ad-



Wheeler Elementary School fifth-grader Aaron Jackson shovels in mulch around a newly planted grapefruit tree on campus while third-grader Sofia Reyes pats down the compost, thus ensuring that the fledgling tree will retain its share of moisture.

ressed the importance of connecting children with their aina, or land, in the hope that they will become better stewards of the environment.

To help, arborist Jackie Ralya led a hands-on planting workshop while education assistant and garden coordinator Pat Ganaban spoke about the school's extensive gardening program while students soaked up the warm weather and planting tips.

Several groups, in fact, gathered around the trees and helped shovel in mulch around the base of the plantings, thus ensuring that the fruit trees will be successful in retaining moisture.

“We want them to make as much of an impact on the environment as possible,” Drotos said. “They'll be able to do that by harvesting and raising these trees, and enjoying the delicious fruit that comes out of that. If children learn to care for the trees, the trees will keep giving.”

Near the conclusion of the planting effort, Ganaban labeled the outing a success. Still, she said, there will be much work to be done in the coming days and months.

“Each classroom is going to be responsible for adopting a tree,” she said. “That means they'll be responsible for watering and caring for their own trees.”



Sgt. Abubakr Abdul-Zahir, 25th Transportation Company, helps students at Kahuku Intermediate and High School find different terrain features on their map as part of an orienteering course the Soldiers conducted, recently.

Students master navigation

Story and Photo by
STAFF SGT. COREY BALTOS
45th Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Nowadays, people have all sorts of tools to make sure they don't get lost, but what happens if the cell phone dies or the signal is lost?

While Soldiers are taught map reading, many civilians are not.

To remedy this, the 25th Transportation Company, 45th Special Troops Battalion, went to Kahuku Intermediate and High School to teach students the basics of land navigation.

“We are teaching the kids orienteering, map reading and how to do a pace count,” said Sgt. 1st Class Carl Oldham, rear detachment first sergeant, 25th Trans. Co., and an instructor. “Basically, it is the same class that Soldiers get during sergeant's time training, but it is adjusted slightly so the kids can relate to it.”

The four-day class, conducted April 12-15, consisted of map reading, how to do a pace count and read a compass, a written test, and an orienteering course on school grounds.

“The course is like the ones the Soldiers do at Warrior Leader Course,” said Staff Sgt. Austin Durham, the primary instructor for the class.

However, instead of plotting points and using a compass to reach a destination, the students had an aerial map of their campus with their point locations marked on their maps.

To find the points, they had to orientate their maps, then find nine points around the school in 20 minutes.

Soldiers awarded prizes to the fastest teams to encourage the kids. Prizes consisted of backpacks, wallets, T-shirts and water bottles, supplied by the 130th Engineering Bn., and the 45th STB retention offices.

The class was met with enthusiasm by students and Soldiers.

“This class is good for both the students and the Soldiers,” said retired 1st Sgt. Dave Brandt, Kahuku Intermediate/High School Junior ROTC first sergeant. “We teach our cadets the basics of map reading, but this is more in depth. Since this class is being taught to all students, not just the cadets, more kids are getting this knowledge.”

“I liked this course, it was something different to do, and I learned how to read maps and about the different types of terrain features,” said Malo Matau, a senior at Kahuku. “I would like to have the Soldiers come back and teach us more classes.”



24 / Saturday

Dude...Find the Food – Teen organizers for Army Community Service are looking for teams of their peers to participate in the scavenger hunt, April 24, 8:30 a.m., Schofield ACS. Register seven-member teams at 744-0824 or e-mail llumbsmith@aol.com.

Teams will follow clues through Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield, and learn about activities and organizations available on post as they pick up food items purchased by the sponsors.

Register seven-member teams, one of the members must be an adult driver/team leader.

25 / Sunday

Adventure Kayaking – Spend half a day on various beaches around this beautiful island kayaking. Classes are available in three skill levels as well as kayak fishing. The cost is only \$49 per person. Call 655-0143.

26 / Monday

Volleyball Tournament – Entries accepted until 4 p.m., April 26, for a coed Volleyball Tournament in May, at Aliamanu Military Reservation Physical Fitness Center.

Active duty, Reserve, National Guard, retirees, family members and government civilians may enter. Call 836-0338.

Garrison: Branches support one another, troops

CONTINUED FROM B-1

Austin continued. “We were all very supportive of each other, and everyone finished in under an hour.”

Range Division had been training since January, complete with daily two-mile runs/walks during lunch and workout sessions at Martinez Physical Fitness Center, after work, several days a week.

“There is such accountability in our group, which keeps us all focused and having fun,” Austin said. “I’m even trying to talk the

guys into the Zumba class on Fridays offered on-post.”

While the running group in red hasn’t decided if they’ll pursue other running events around the island, they are certain that they’ll be back next year for the GOC’s 5K Fun Run/Walk.

“We’ll definitely be participating next year,” Austin said. “We are a strong ohana. It is so important to be supportive of each other, our troops and support branches. It is important that we all go out there and show our pride for our Soldiers in Hawaii.”



Stacy Harding | Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Capt. Kyle Gaylor, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and his dog Charlie Rose, cross the finish line with a final time of 24:07 at the Garrison Organization Celebration 5K Fun Run/Walk, April 15, at Schofield Barracks. Gaylor came in sixth place and was the only runner with a canine companion.



Jack Wiers | U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Col. Jay Hammer, executive officer, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, takes some time away from perfecting his golf game to goof off at the Garrison Organization Celebration Golf Scramble, April 14, at Leilehua Golf Course.



Send sports announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

24 / Saturday

Hot Pursuit – Code-crackers and brainteaser busters are invited to join Hospice Hawaii in a mile walk from Ward Warehouse where participants

will race to receive clues to mystery destination, April 24.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Call 791-8011 or visit www.hospicehawaii.org.

25 / Sunday

Haleiwa Metric Century Ride – The Haleiwa Metric Ride is named one of “The Best 50 Rides in the United States” by Bicycling Magazine, ride through the North Shore, Haleiwa Town, Sunset Beach, Pipeline, Waimea and Swanzey Beach Park, April 25.

The race has 25, 50 or 100 kilometer options. Visit www.hbl.org.

27 / Tuesday

Pineapple Run – Register for the 10K Pineapple Run by April 27.

The 6.2 mile course starts and finishes at Kaala Elementary School, running through Wahiawa and area pineapple fields, May 1, 7 a.m., with a free pineapple at the finish.

Register at www.active.com, e-mail PineappleRun2010@gmail.com or call 471-4774 or 473-2142.

May

2 / Sunday

Bike Race – The Criterium Bike Race will take participants on a safe, 1.1-mile loop course consisting of two wide, 90-degree turns and one wide, sweeping 180-degree turn.

Visit www.mccshawaii.com/cgfit.htm.

8 / Saturday

Sprint Triathlon – Bike, swim, or

run to Marine Corps Base-Hawaii for the most hardcore event held on the windward side, May 8. The Triathlon consists of a 500-meter swim in Kaneohe Bay, an 11-mile bike race circumnavigating the base, and ends with a 3.5-mile run at the Base Marina. Enter as an individually or in three-man relay teams.

Visit www.mccshawaii.com/cgfit.htm.

Run With a View – Run more than eight miles in Aiea, May 8, as part of the Hawaiian Ultra Running Team trail series. E-mail expo@hawaii.rr.com.