

# SECDEF visits Sailors in Hawaii



DoD photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean Hurt

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter speaks to Sailors aboard USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) April 12. Carter is on a visit to the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility to make observations for the force of the future and the rebalance to the Pacific. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

## 'Stay Safe' event educates JBPHH keiki on sexual assault prevention

Story and photo by  
 Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs office

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Library (JBPHH) hosted a special "stay safe" story time for JBPHH keiki April 8.

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, Month of the Military Child and Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month, the hour-long event featured special guest appearances from the 15th Wing Sexual Assault Response Coordinator's (SARC) office and the Federal Fire Department.

The interactive event highlighted the importance of the "safe touch rule" and encouraged the group of 3-5 year olds to protect their bodies and report inappropriate touching.

According to Machele Terrell, 15th Wing SARC, the training was created to complement the well-known "stranger danger" message



Machele Terrell, 15th Wing Sexual Assault Response coordinator, speaks to a group of children about the proper places to touch and be touched during the "Stay Safe" event at the Hickam Library on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

and meant to raise the children's awareness to inappropriate behavior during everyday interactions, not just in situations with strangers. With statistics showing that only

10 percent of perpetrators of child sexual abuse are strangers to the child, Terrell said she and her staff want to be sure they are preparing children for the most realistic and common scenarios.

Chants such as, "my body belongs to me," accompanied by a puppet demonstration of appropriate places to touch and be touched, were done to help the kids commit the concept to memory.

"This will help instill in them at a very young age things that are okay and things that are not okay," said Tech. Sgt. Christina Payton, a 15th Wing victim advocate.

"If we start preventive training early, it may be easier for them to recognize and come forward when something bad has happened."

Payton said the wing sexual assault prevention and response office wanted to be sure prevention and response measures were provided to the entire community and not just to military members.

"It's important for kids to learn

at a young age how to protect themselves and be safe when it comes to their body," said Sonja Dickinson, a parent at the stay safe event.

Dickinson said she found the environment to be age appropriate and fun and the information uncomplicated for the children to understand.

"The format wasn't boring, and the songs and repetitive chants make it easy for the kids to remember," she said.

The SAPR office will hold additional sexual assault prevention events for youth throughout the month of April. The Students Learning Attack Prevention Campaign will partner with security forces, police services, family advocacy and other base helping agencies to educate JBPHH youth on a variety of topics including Internet safety.

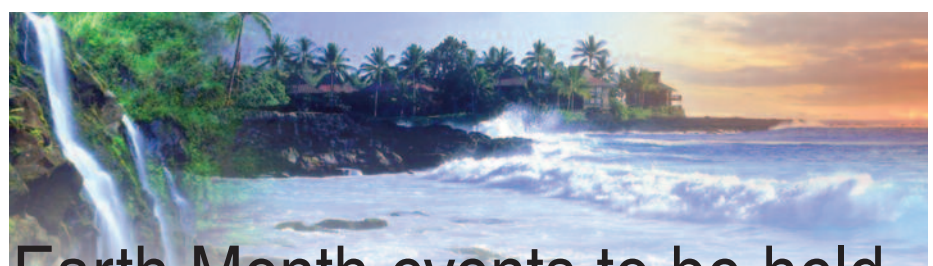
(For more information on these events, contact the 15th Wing SAPR Office at 448-3192.)

## Navy participates in Merrie Monarch



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter

Sailors assigned to the Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) participate in the Merrie Monarch Royal Parade. The 52nd annual Merrie Monarch Festival honors King David Kalakaua who is credited with restoring many Hawaiian cultural traditions during his reign. (See story and additional photos on page B-1.)



## Earth Month events to be held

Lt. Corbin Dryden

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The following Earth Month events are scheduled:

The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange will host a display from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at the outdoor living center. Displays will include information about Hawaiian monk seals and Navy Region Hawaii energy.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host an event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Harbor marina. Displays will include information about coconut rhinoceros beetles, Navy Region Hawaii energy and storm water.

Fleet Logistics Center will conduct an

event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 22 at Pier Kilo 8. Displays will include information about storm water, coconut rhinoceros beetles, Navy Region Hawaii recycling, Navy Region Hawaii energy, Hawaiian monk seals and archaeology.

Hickam Communities will host an event from 2 to 4 p.m. April 22 at Ka Makani Community Center. Displays will include information about energy ideas and tips, storm water management and recycling.

Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai will host a beach cleanup from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 22 at Majors Bay.

A ceremonial Pearl Harbor Colors event will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. April 23 at Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. Displays include information about Navy Region Hawaii energy and bio-fuels programs.

## Road resurfacing near Nimitz Gate now in progress

Hawaii Department of Transportation has started resurfacing work on the Nimitz Gate inbound lanes (two right lanes). Hours for work will be from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Inbound lanes are projected to be completed by May 15.



Families and friends greet USS Louisville Sailors  
 See page A-2



A safe, secure neighborhood is everyone's concern  
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Sailors honor Hawaii hula heritage  
 See page B-1



Air Force activates AFIMSC detachment in Pacific  
 See page A-2



NEX Earth Day Expo educates young minds about environment  
 See page A-4



Patrons can celebrate Earth Day at Hickam Harbor  
 See page B-4

# Air Force activates AFIMSC detachment in Pacific

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Amanda Dick

Headquarters Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

Air Force Material Command (AFMC) activated the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) Detachment 2 in a ceremony held April 9 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Maj. Gen. Theresa Carter, AFIMSC commander, presided over the ceremony as Col. Mickey Addison assumed command of the newly established Pacific detachment.

"I am proud the [Pacific Air Forces] detachment is the first to stand up [in the Air Force]. I feel very good that our team here has been helping lead the Air Force in this initiative at the detachment level," Addison said.

"Our mission in the detachment is to synchronize and execute installation and mission support for Pacific commanders. I am very confident we are well positioned to execute that mission."

PACDET combines and



U.S. Air Force Col. Mickey Addison, right, assumes command of the Air Force Installation and Mission Support (AFIMS) Center Detachment 2 from Maj. Gen. Theresa Carter, AFIMSC commander, during an activation ceremony held April 9 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

oversees functions in the comptroller, civil engineer, communications, security forces, personnel and support career fields.

"I'm very proud of the teamwork and support our PACAF team provided to

the AFIMSC Provisional Staff to achieve this milestone," said Gen. Lori Robinson, PACAF commander. PACDET marks the beginning of the AFIMSC journey for PACAF, and the Airmen

will lead the way."

While Airmen in the above career fields won't see a change at the base level in their chain of command, the funding and guidance flow will be impacted starting in fiscal year 2016 when

AFIMSC takes control of installation and mission support funding.

Speaking to PACDET Airmen, Carter said though many changes will take place, there will be "more constants than change."

"You are still going to be there to solve problems, to secure resources, to take care of Airmen, to support commanders, and to provide a great installation from which we can deliver airpower and our men and women can live, work and play," she said.

Addison agreed, stating PACDET would help to pave the way for how the 10 detachments would operate.

"We'll have 10 detachments going in the same direction, flying in formation," he said.

To help set the standard, Addison offered the following "guiding principles."

"A change in leadership is not a change in mission. We will establish processes and not depend on personality. We're not going to have single points of failure," he said. "We are going

to write the book. We have a clean slate now to write new procedures to support Pacific commanders.

"We're going to be lean flat and responsive. We're a small number with a big mission, and we're going to embody that responsiveness to our customers, our teammates and our colleagues," Addison added.

"We're going to continue our partnerships with our joint and combined partners around the Pacific to get the mission done and support our commanders."

Looking to the future, Carter said she hopes to see the Pacific as a "very innovative and lean organization where detachment commanders like Addison have been empowered with the authority, the responsibility and the resources to very quickly embody that 'I'm supporting commanders' mindset, that he's empowered to take action, make good decisions, and support the folks who are down at the installation."

The Pacific detachment will include 60 Airmen who were formerly part of Headquarters Pacific Air Forces.

# Families and friends greet USS Louisville Sailors

Story and photo by MC1 Steven Khor

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs Office

The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724) returned home to families and friends gathered April 10 at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, following a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific.

The submarine's commanding officer, Cmdr. Bob Figgs, praised his crew's productivity and professionalism throughout the deployment. "One of the greatest aspects of any deployment is watching how the crew grows and matures over the course of our time at sea," said Figgs, who hails from Kaneohe.

"I'm immensely proud and impressed by the milestones achieved by members of the crew throughout the deployment."

Louisville successfully completed a range of under-sea operations and training evolutions and worked with allied partners in several multinational exercises, thereby improving the combined mission readiness of U.S. and allied forces.

Figgs said the submarine and her crew fulfilled vital national security tasking, flawlessly showcasing her skill in anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR).

He added that this deployment was undoubtedly a bright spot in the

Louisville's storied history. In six months at sea, it logged nearly 40,000 miles traveled across an immense tract of ocean spanning from Hawaii to the Arabian Sea. Along with participation in several multi-national exercises, it transited some of the western Pacific's most heavily trafficked straits, marking the crossings of the equator and international dateline with traditional ceremonies.

Figgs noted that in such a challenging environment like deployment, he is glad to see his crew members assist one another. One such crew member is Chief Machinist's Mate Jeff Crumrine, a 17-year submarine veteran who takes pleasure in mentoring junior Sailors.

"Many aspects of our daily life can be intimidating at first," said Crumrine. "But nothing is more rewarding for me than teaching a Sailor how to respond to casualties or navigate the qualification process."

In addition to gaining the experience of operating in the western Pacific, the deployment afforded Sailors the opportunity to work on personal qualifications. Three officers and 20 enlisted Sailors became submarine-qualified and are now able to wear their respective submarine warfare device, or "dolphins." Additionally, 17 Sailors advanced in rank, 10 reenlisted, and two were selected for commissioning programs.

While on deployment, many Sailors had the opportunity to experience new cultures and foreign



Fire Control Technician 1st Class Joseph Lewis, assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724), hugs his wife Sarah, following the return of the submarine to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, April 10.

port calls. Fire Control Technician 3rd Class Tyler Zak of Doylestown, Pa. said his highlight of the deployment was a visit to Singapore.

"My friends and I had an awesome time exploring Clarke Quay and the famous Little India neighborhood," said Zak. "We experienced a very different culture and ate all kinds of exotic foods."

Lt. j.g. James McCarty of Las Vegas said his highlight was a visit to Yokosuka, Japan. "I thoroughly

enjoyed seeing Tokyo, including the temples, markets and nightlife," said McCarty. "But the single item I will always remember is discovering just how tasty ramen from a vending machine can be."

Upon returning home to Pearl Harbor, Louisville's supply officer, Ensign Hobart Kistler, said the crew's thoughts now focus on reuniting with friends and family.

"For those of us who are new to the submarine force and the Navy, com-

ing home to Hawaii is a culmination of everything that we worked toward," said Kistler. "There is nothing like seeing friends and family and getting a hug and kiss and seeing how kids have grown up."

Monica Cramer, wife of Lt. Dustin Cramer, the weapons officer on Louisville, said she can't wait to have him finally home. "I'm just beyond excited. It is nice to have him back safely, and I'm also excited for all the families and

especially the children," said Cramer. "We are looking forward to a nice long break and having time to relax."

USS Louisville is the fourth United States ship to bear the name in honor of the city of Louisville, Ky. Its mission is to seek out and destroy enemy ships and submarines and to protect U.S. national interests. At 360-feet long and 6,900 tons, it can be armed with sophisticated MK48 torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Commentary

# A safe, secure neighborhood is everyone's concern

**Capt. Stan Keeve**

Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



Capt. Stan Keeve

Earlier this week I received a letter from concerned citizens living in base housing neighborhoods. As this issue of the Ho'okele goes to press, we're making arrangements to meet to discuss concerns, understand points of view, and share ideas and information.

I am very grateful to all of you who took the time to express your feelings about safety and security and timely notification in housing areas. Your willingness to speak out means you are committed to working together.

Over the past two weeks, we had two incidents. One involved a young person who reported being allegedly accosted by a stranger. The other was a full-on investigation by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations into alleged possession of a

hazardous material in a residence.

We take every security report seriously, and each is handled according to specific individual circumstances.

In the first incident last week, we quickly determined through multiple security agencies that there was no evidence to support the allegation and no need for a general alarm. Although we did respond to the event in time, we could have provided that detail

more quickly via social media and in response to concerns raised by residents. Lesson learned.

In the second event, we provided ongoing information to residents, including at the scene of the investigation.

Here are some of the questions we ask before putting out a general advisory when there is suspicious activity in our neighborhoods:

- Is there an immediate danger to people?
- What kind of response do we initiate?
- When should we release information so it doesn't impact the security department's efforts?
- How can we achieve a balance — not causing unnecessary fear while still respecting and honoring the public's right to know?
- What needs to be done to not compromise an investigation?

It should be noted that, unfortunately, some reports to Joint Base Security, although they are well meaning, do end up as false alarms. That being said, we assume all are real unless evidence proves otherwise. Furthermore, we cannot reveal specific security responses or techniques because it could tip our hands to those who would do us harm.

While there will be times we can't give out information immediately, please rest assured that we will always err on the side of caution when a general

## On with community safety VEST: Vigilance, Engagement, Speed, Together

**Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs**

The VEST program at Joint Base promotes heightened awareness and partnership.

**Vigilance:** The single best thing everyone can do, say local leaders and community residents, is to be vigilant—parents watching children, residents watching neighborhoods, everyone looking out for each other. Security patrols have been stepped up to maintain vigilance, and they are ready to respond immediately.

**Engagement:** If housing residents see suspicious activity in the neighborhood, they should call 911, according to base security. When witnesses step forward, it helps an investigation. Security can't be everywhere at once, so it is very important that residents are willing to engage and support.

**Speed:** An immediate response is needed in a crisis, emergency or suspected criminal activity. Call 911 immediately in those situations. Studies show that the best way to get emergency information out to a community quickly is through social media. Other media—TV, radio, Giant voice and newspapers—can

be used, depending on the incident, but social media is instantaneous and can be shared widely.

**Together:** While there are a few people interested only in complaining, there are many more who step forward to work together to prevent incidents and respond immediately when they occur.

In response to a statement about a previous alleged child abduction attempt, Christine Hawkins posted this to Facebook: "There is a simple thing that we all can do to help make all of the children in housing safer. Sit outside or even just on your front porch and watch your kids play, no matter what their age. If perpetrators see that there are a bunch of parents present throughout our neighborhoods, they will be less inclined to try something stupid."

Billy Lowe posted this to Facebook, "Remember this is the aloha state. Ohana has always been #1, always, so remember that one incident that happens rarely does not constitute an epidemic. Just be kind—to others. Mahalos. Common sense and communication always prevails."

warning to the community is truly warranted.

We've got your back! Protecting you and your family is a sacred responsibility for my team and me.

Because there is always room for improvement, I'm especially pleased to hear directly from residents. My security team and I want your suggestions, and we want your participation.

Several years ago when JBPHH dealt with what seemed to be a credible threat of attempted child abduction, the base came up with a program to promote heightened awareness and partnership: VEST – Vigilance, Engagement, Speed, Together.

It means reaching out to **vigilant** people willing to **engage** by calling 911 im-

mediately (**speed**) when they see something suspicious and all of us working **together**.

I'd like to revisit this program in our base community and keep the lines of communication open. I think we all understand how tension and fear can grow in the absence of information. Let's continue to work together!

## Diverse Views



How do you cope when stuck in traffic?



**2nd Lt. Ashlee Ellis**  
647th Civil Engineers Squadron

"I remind myself that I'm no more important than anyone else stuck in traffic and we all want the same thing — to get where we are headed. Patience!"

**ET2 Kevin Shields**  
USS O'Kane (DDG 77)

"I think about life and do a self-evaluation of my time in the Navy."



**Senior Airman Shaun Clark**  
392nd Intelligence Squadron

"Think about the fact that everyone else is stuck in traffic, too. I'm not the only one that is having a bad day in traffic."

**IT2 Dsean Handy**  
NIOC Hawaii

"I just accept it. I'm a New Yorker, so I'm used to bad traffic."



**Senior Airman Irene Michaelis**  
324th Intelligence Squadron

"Because I know that I am going to be stuck in traffic for 30 minutes to an hour, I always ensure I have podcasts downloaded to my phone to listen to. My favorites are TED Talks and Freakonomics. You have all of this free time, so why not use it to learn something or be inspired by others."

**Lt. Amanda Deno**  
COMSESRON 31

"Usually with music or by brainstorming for what I have to do at home or at work the next day. It helps to pass time while I am stuck in traffic. Plus I lived in the Hampton Roads area for five years, this is nothing."



**Master Sgt. Joseph Royer**  
96th Air Refueling Squadron

"I relish in the fact that traffic for me means my five-minute commute is now going to be a seven-minute commute. Living on base has its perks."

**LSC Joel Williams**  
DLA Troop Support Pacific

"With music and the beautiful scenery of Hawaii, which puts me in a relaxing mood. No use in getting upset about the traffic."



Provided by Lt. Damall Martin and David D. Underwood Jr.

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or [karen.spangler@navy.mil](mailto:karen.spangler@navy.mil)

## Doolittle led surprise raid on military targets



U.S. Air Force photo

On April 18, 1942, Airmen of the U.S. Army Air Forces, led by Lt. Col. James H. (Jimmy) Doolittle, carried the battle of the Pacific to Japan with a surprising and daring raid on military targets at Tokyo, Yokohama, Yokosuka, Nagoya and Kobe. This attack against these major cities was the result of coordination between the Army Air Forces and the U.S. Navy, which carried the 16 American B-25 medium bombers aboard the carrier USS Hornet to within takeoff distance of the Japanese islands. In this photo, a pair of escorts follow the USS Hornet to protect its cargo of B-25 bombers. The raid took place 73 years ago this week.

## HO'OKELE

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Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy and Air Force installations throughout Oahu.

# Navy Marine Corps Relief Society honors volunteers

**Brandon Bosworth**

*Assistant Editor, Ho'okele*

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) held its 19th annual volunteer award ceremony April 15 at the Hale Koa Hotel to recognize commands and individuals for their contributions to the charity.

The event coincided with National Volunteer Week. Barb Sheffer, the director of volunteer services for the NMCRS, was the special guest.

"This ceremony allows us to honor and recognize our 100 plus volunteers," said Paul Belanger, director of the NMCRS Pearl Harbor office.

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and honorary chair of the NMCRS Pearl Harbor office, spoke at the event and addressed the volunteers.

"You are the reason we are here today, and it is your dedication and

accomplishments that we want to recognize," he said. "It is not only what you do, but how you do it, that improves our quality of life that means increased quality of service that makes us more ready to deploy. The 'how' relates to the relationships that you created."

In 2014, 126 NMCRS Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe volunteers contributed 19,196 hours of service. Their work included helping 142 clients go home on emergency leave last year as well as providing more than 1,000 quick assist loans to 878 clients who needed assistance with basic living expenses such as food, rent and utilities.

NMCRS helped 179 Sailors, Marines and retirees with family emergencies and provided financial assistance to repair 66 vehicles.

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is currently holding its annual fund drive, which has been extended until April 17.

"We're really looking forward to enthusiastic donations, so we can



Barb Sheffer, director of volunteer support, addresses the audience at the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Volunteer of the Year luncheon.

wrap up this year's fund drive nicely," said Belanger.

Even though the fund drive is of-

ficially scheduled to end next Friday, NMCRS accepts donations all year long. For Sailors and Marines

interested in having allotments taken out of their paychecks to go to NMCRS, the deadline for 12-month allotments is in May. However, allotments for shorter time periods are available throughout the year. To set up allotments, service members can contact their command's fund drive coordinator.

The goal of the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is to provide, in partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational and assistance to members of the naval services of the United States, eligible family members, and survivors when in need.

Since it was founded in 1904, the society has provided more than \$1.1 billion in interest-free loans and grants to more than four million active duty and retired Sailors, Marines and their families. It is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and operates nearly 250 offices ashore and afloat at Navy and Marine Corps bases throughout the world.

# NEX Earth Day Expo educates young minds about environment

**Story and photo by Brandon Bosworth**

*Assistant Editor, Ho'okele*

As part of its annual Earth Day Expo, the outdoor living center at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) offered a variety of educational presentations for children visiting from Navy Hale Keiki School throughout the week.

"This year we decided to reach out to the young ones so they can learn about the environment and Earth Day," said Stephanie Lau, NEX customer relations manager. "We wanted to give them a chance to do some hands-on learning."

The event included presentations on conserving energy, preserving the ocean, composting, gardening, recycling and Hawaiian monk seals. The children also learned about the upcoming ban on plastic shopping bags, which



takes effect this July 1.

Volunteers from 'Ai Manuahi Farms demonstrated how to pound taro and offered samples of the Native Hawaiian staple pa'i ai. Representatives from the Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) Environmental Outreach Program and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii were among those on hand to serve as educators.

"I think it was great being involved with the schools for this year's Earth Day Expo," said Patty Coleman, CNRH environmental outreach coordinator. "It gives our staff the opportunity to teach young minds."

Chelsea Goto, energy intern from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, talks to children about energy conservation at the Pearl Harbor NEX Earth Day Expo held April 14. (Additional photos on page A-5.)

# Sacrifices of military child recognized during April

**Amaani Lyle**

*DoD News, Defense Media Activity*

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — To highlight the year-round contributions, courage and patriotism of the military community's youngest members, the Defense Department (DoD) observes April as the Month of the Military Child, said a Pentagon official.

Established by then-Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in 1986, the month recognizes some 1.9 million U.S. military children ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, who have one or both parents serving in the armed forces, said Barbara Thompson, the director of DOD's office of family readiness policy.

"We want to highlight their sacrifices (and) support of the military member in their families, so it behooves us to take time from the busy calendar of our events and recognize military children," she said.

Permanent change of stations, deployments and training activities, among other facets of military life, can present unique challenges to children who must constantly adjust to distance, un-



Image courtesy of U.S. Air Force

April is the Month of the Military Child.

familiarity and uncertain schedules, Thompson explained.

"That can be a real sacrifice because each parent is a very important part of that child's makeup," she said. "So we want to make sure that when they move or change schools, all of those transition times are supported with resources, programs and services."

DOD offers a variety of programs to help military children overcome these challenges, Thompson said.

**Available programs offer assistance**

For example, the child development program offers child care up to age 12. Similarly, youth development programs offer older children opportunities for recreation and character, social and emotional development.

Thompson reported that parents, too, have resources to help best guide and nurture their children of all ages.

The New Parents Support Program helps parents during preg-

nancy and childbirth, and children up to 3 years of age, to reach their full potential through home visitations and parent support groups, she said.

Military OneSource is another resource available 24/7, 365 days a year, to support parents to learn more about parenting skills as well as to find support for themselves, Thompson added. It also offers telephonic, face-to-face, online and video nonmedical and financial counseling, which she described as "strengthening pillars" for military households separated from extended family or settling into a new environment.

"On the installations, we have military family support centers where a multitude of services for transitions and life skills are offered to make sure our families can be resilient and strengthen them in their efforts to be the parents they want to be," she said.

Family support has evolved over the last 40 years to become the family readiness system, which is a collaborative network of agencies, programs, services and professionals who promote the readiness and quality of life of military families both on installations and in the community, Thompson said.

"There is no 'wrong' door," she

said. "So regardless of where you're seeking support, whether it's with your pediatrician or with your chaplain, he or she will also know the resources to support you in your efforts to navigate the military life course."

**A visual tribute**

Across the services, Thompson said, parades, fairs, art and poetry contests will abound as installations develop engaging and amusing activities to solidify the bonds among families and communities.

"We want to make sure that children's voices are heard during the Month of the Military Child," she said. "It's a fun time to be with their families (and) to take part in the various activities that the services developed to recognize military children."

Community outreach initiatives include partnerships with the Department of Agriculture and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's 4-H youth group to promote "Purple Up!" on April 15, Thompson said. Students, school sports team members, teachers and community leaders will wear purple as a visual tribute to military children.

"It is hard to be a military child, and they're doing it super well," Thompson said.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



Volunteers from 'Ai Manuahi Farms demonstrate how to pound taro at the Pearl Harbor NEX Earth Day Expo held April 14.

U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth

Patty Coleman, Navy Region Hawaii environmental outreach coordinator, teaches children at the NEX about Oahu's upcoming plastic bag ban.

U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth



Friends and families cheer the return of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724) April 10 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam following a six-month scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Stephen Khor

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter has lunch with junior Sailors aboard USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) April 12. Carter is on a visit to the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility to make observations for the force of the future and the rebalance to the Pacific.

DoD photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean Hurt



Special operations forces, assigned to Naval Special Warfare Unit One (NSWU-1), conduct visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) training March 25 with the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) along with an MH-60S Seahawk, assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25, during Multi-Sail 2015. Multi-Sail is an annual Destroyer Squadron 15 exercise designed to assess combat systems, improve teamwork and increase warfighting capabilities in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel M. Young



Commentary

## Be someone's hero—'Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know Your Part, Do Your Part'

**Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan**

*Navy Surgeon General and Chief, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery*



Vice Adm. Matthew L. Nathan

April marks Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month and I take this issue very seriously. That means I have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to sexual assault, and I expect the same from everyone — Sailor or civilian — throughout the entire Navy Medicine enterprise.

Increasing awareness and preventing sexual assault is a priority all year round, but as April begins, I also want to emphasize the important role Navy Medicine plays in preventing these crimes and the care we provide when these incidents occur that can tarnish our Navy, a

career, and lives.

In order to eliminate sexual assault from our service, every Sailor must know, understand and adhere to standards of behavior. When we join the Navy, we join a professional organization and

pledge to uphold the core values of honor, courage and commitment. I'm counting on you to live by those tenets.

Recognize your role in sexual assault prevention and know when, where and how to intervene. Be an intrusive leader. Is it awkward at times to step in and "stop the fun" when it goes too far? Yes, it can be, but do it! Be someone's hero. Be that Sailor who has the courage and pride to intrude, to protect someone from another or perhaps themselves. Your actions could change the trajectory of someone's life from misery to success.

I am distraught any time I hear of a sexual assault within our ranks. It is inconceivable to me that our shipmates would assault one another or anyone else. These are the same com-

rades who entrust their lives to one another at sea, on the battlefield and in the workplace. Sexual assault destroys trust, it erodes morale among shipmates, and it degrades our mission readiness and operational effectiveness. The bottom line is sexual assault is a crime and will not be tolerated.

This year's theme for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month is "Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know Your Part. Do Your Part."

Sexual assault prevention requires each of us to actively participate and stay engaged in the lives of our shipmates and colleagues. You are leaders at every level. If you see a shipmate who is harassing someone or being harassed, exert your leadership, demonstrate the Navy's

core values and take action — in other words, do your part. We must take care of one another because the safety, dignity and well-being of our Sailors and Marines is a responsibility we all share.

Navy Medicine directly supports sexual assault awareness and prevention programs, not only through our training and education efforts, but also by ensuring the availability of care for those who have been victimized.

We have proficient, confident and caring sexual assault forensic examination (SAFE) providers ready to perform 24 hours a day, seven days a week to meet the immediate and long-term medical needs of sexual assault victims.

SAFE providers — including sexual assault nurse examiners, physi-

cians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurse practitioners and independent duty corpsmen — are trained and available to ensure timely and appropriate medical care for sexual assault victims in all military platforms served by Navy Medicine. We currently have more than 875 SAFE-trained providers serving aboard ships, alongside Marines, and in our military treatment facilities.

I expect everyone at every level, regardless of your rank, role or position, in Navy Medicine to be engaged. Together, by knowing our part and doing our part, we can eliminate sexual assault from our Navy.

Thank you for your service and the work you do every day. It is my honor to serve as your surgeon general.

## Mock trial demonstrates consequences of sexual assault

**Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden**

*15th Wing Public Affairs*

Court was in full swing as first term Airman center students attempted to decide the verdict of a simulated sexual assault case during a mock trial April 7 at the 15th Wing Judge Advocate (JA) office.

The mock trial featured real facts from a previous trial re-enacted with a script by sexual assault prevention and response office volunteers. The hour-long educational demonstration documented the finding portion of the trial that the victim and accused perpetrator endure in court.

"We do this to show new Airmen the legal aspects of a sexual assault to help make them aware of the process and legal consequences they may face," said Capt. Christopher Simmons, 15th WG JA chief of assistance.

Simmons said the mock trial scenario was chosen because it



The 15th Wing Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office partnered with the 15th Wing Judge Advocate office to host a mock sexual assault trial held April 7 in the courtroom on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

represented the most frequently tried cases involving alcohol.

"This was both an educational and prevent measure," Simmons said of the event, which was open to the base community.

"It shows them the process from both points of view and, hopefully, helps make them

aware of the issues that could crop up if bad decisions are made and shows them the impact the judicial process can have on both the victim and the accused," Simmons explained.

According to Simmons, the mock trial is also intended to help connect the Airmen in the audi-

ence to the importance of bystander intervention and address issues of drinking and consent.

"Usually you're told about the legal process during sexual assault training but you never get to see it, so I was interested to see that it plays out as any other legal proceeding. It's an actual

trial," said Airman 1st Class Jordan Zylstra-Doyle, a first-term Airman assigned to the 324th Intelligence Squadron.

Zylstra-Doyle said he also appreciated the interactive training because it led to audience questions and discussions that may not have been raised in any other setting.

"This definitely has shown that it's important, even if two people know each other very well, to intervene if they are drinking and bad decisions could be made," he said.

"If you intervene early, you can prevent things from getting out of hand and becoming a bad situation like this."

Machelle Terrell, 15th Wing sexual assault response coordinator, advises that consent is about mutual respect, even when drinking is involved.

"No one wins in this situation, not the unit, either individual or the Air Force," she said. "All of us play an important part in prevention by being active bystanders."

# MCPON launches eSailor initiative at Recruit Training Command

Sue Krawczyk

Recruit Training Command  
Great Lakes, Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES (NNS) — The Navy's top enlisted Sailor, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike D. Stevens, was on hand to distribute the first electronic tablets (e-tablets) to the Navy's newest recruits at Recruit Training Command (RTC), April 7.

The launch of the eSailor initiative is a pre-pilot, beta testing to two divisions of 70 recruits to help determine how well the device integrates into the training environment at RTC.

The e-tablet will contain RTC curriculum, including training videos, texts and access to professional development websites.

"As we exploit wireless, mobile technology through the eSailor initiative, I am certain there will be challenges and we will learn lessons along the way, but we cannot let challenges of security, accessibility and cost hold us back," said Stevens.

"We must embrace these challenges and work through them in order to remain relevant. I do not believe we have an option 'not to' embrace mobile technology if we are going to be relevant in our ability to function in the 21st century and beyond. We must do this and it must start now."



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Martin L. Carey

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens hands recruits the first issuance of mobile devices during the launch of eSailor at Recruit Training Command. eSailor is an initiative aimed at providing all Sailors with wireless, mobile technology to conduct training, communicate, and eventually access medical records and take advancement exams.

The goal of the e-tablet is to increase the quality of work and quality of life of both recruits and recruit division commanders (RDCs). The e-tablets will use technology already used in elementary through high schools across the nation and incorporate the RTC curriculum, creating a seamless educational transition from civilian to Sailor.

In 2014, Stevens proposed the eSailor initiative to Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), which

oversees RTC. Since then, the NSTC-RTC team has worked to develop protocol for the use, care and programming of the tablets.

"Today is the first step in establishing an effective mobile technology program at RTC," said Rear Adm. Richard A. Brown, commander, NSTC. "RTC and NSTC have partnered together to review training requirements, infrastructure demands, and technological capabilities to realize MCPON Stevens' vision."

The pre-pilot will consist

of a six-month study, serving as a rolling start to obtain qualitative data in a cost-effective manner. When a division graduates, the tablets will be collected and redistributed to collect three cycles of data, about 450 recruits in total.

"We are continually looking for ways to improve training at RTC," said Capt. Doug Pfeifle, commanding officer, RTC.

"As the Navy's only boot camp, we have an opportunity to impact every Sailor going to the fleet. We are an

increasingly technological Navy and our boot camp must not only reflect but precede the needs of the Navy. As the fleet continually advances in technology, our recruits and staff must embrace this shift as well. Implementing the eSailor initiative will help recruits interface with technology from day one."

Recruits will be instructed on the proper use, regulations and care of their tablets. At the end of each day, tablets will be collected and placed within charging stations where they will be secured until the following day when they will be redistributed.

"I think this is going to help our training because in today's age everyone is so used to having technology right at their hands that we'll be more accustomed to study on a tablet because we're used to it," said Seaman Recruit Karlie Brehm.

Currently, recruits receive more than 100 hours of classroom and applied training. Much of this curriculum will be included on the tablet for recruits to access and study. For training purposes, the e-tablet for the pre-pilot will include Navy-owned RTC curriculum, a digital version of the Bluejacket's Manual, and various other training courses.

The tablets will also be used to increase the quality of life of recruits as this technology will facilitate

communication with family and friends during time normally allotted to them for letter writing.

"There is no better place to launch eSailor than where we launch every enlisted Sailor in the United States Navy, Recruit Training Command, here in Great Lakes," said Stevens.

"Our new Sailors and the professional staff of RTC will leverage this technology for training, while at the same time helping the Navy determine how to proceed into the future, for all Sailors—officer and enlisted."

RTC is primarily responsible for conducting the initial Navy orientation and training of new recruits. The command is commonly referred to as "boot camp" or "recruit training." Boot camp is approximately eight weeks, and all 39,000 enlistees into the United States Navy begin their careers at the command each year.

Training includes physical fitness, seamanship, firearms familiarization, firefighting and shipboard damage control, lessons in Navy heritage and core values, teamwork and discipline.

RTC is overseen by Rear Adm. Richard A. Brown, commander, NSTC, Naval Station Great Lakes. NSTC oversees 98 percent of initial officer and enlisted accessions training for the Navy.

## STORY IDEAS?

Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

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## Homefront Hero celebration to be held April 29

A Homefront Hero celebration will be held from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. April 29 at Military and Family Support Center Hickam.

In celebration of the Month of the Military Child, the support and sacrifice of military children will be recognized.

The children's Homefront Hero Medal is given to the children of deployed service members at an annual event hosted by MFSC. The medal is intended to honor the

child's service and support on the "home front" during the separation period.

Service members who are frequently TDY (90 days or more between April 2014 to April 2015) are also eligible to submit their children for the award. Single members may submit or request medals for their nephews/nieces or sisters/brothers.

For more information, call Jeremy Simon at 474-0156/0105 or email Jeremy.simon.ctr@navy.mil.