

# Celebrate Earth Day

# “Navigator”

# HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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## Sustaining fun: Earth Day 2015

(Right) Shari Gulledge, Navy Hale Keiki School director, helped distribute the certificates of appreciation to the active duty personnel for their long-standing partnership and support to the school throughout the years. (See story on page A-2.)

Photo courtesy of Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor



Hickam Communities observed Earth Day April 22 with displays, information and a 'trashion' show. (See story on page A-2.)

Photo courtesy of Hickam Communities

(Below left) Ella Diciolla, age 3, joins in Hickam Communities Earth Day activities April 22.

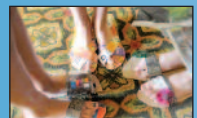
Photo courtesy of Hickam Communities

(Below) U.S. Pacific Fleet Band performs during the Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony April 23 at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. The ceremony focused on the Navy's efforts to contribute to a more sustainable environment.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich



Kahealani Hamakua, left, program specialist with ALO Like, shows students how to prepare paiai during Earth Day 2015 activities hosted by the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai. U.S. Navy photo by Stefan Alford



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Chung-Hoon Sailors honor ship's namesake and USS Sigsbee  
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Dive-in movie tonight  
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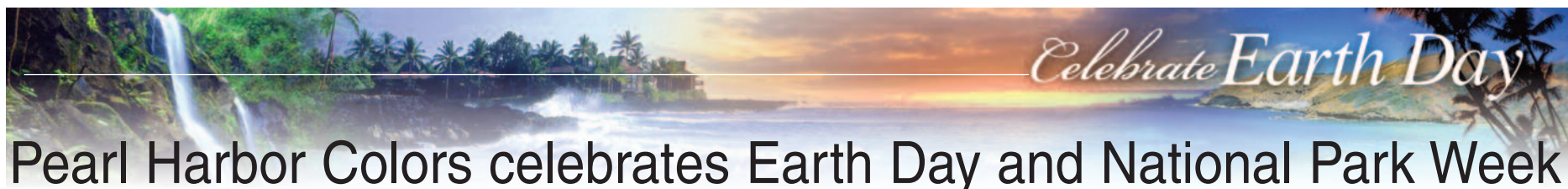
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# Celebrate Earth Day

## Pearl Harbor Colors celebrates Earth Day and National Park Week

Story and photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawaii celebrated Earth Day and National Park Week during Pearl Harbor Colors, an honors and heritage ceremony held April 23 at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

The ceremony focused on the Navy's efforts to contribute to a more sustainable environment.

Lt. Cmdr. Rob Franklin, operations officer for commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, spoke about this month's ceremony theme.

"In alignment with the Department of the Navy's 2015 Earth Day theme, 'A Sustainable Future Begins With You,' our Sailors ashore and afloat are acting



The Joint Base Honors and Ceremonies Guard present the colors while the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band performs the national anthem during the Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony April 23 at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

in innovative ways, taking ownership of efforts to conserve resources, shift to renewable energy, minimize hazardous waste, and recycle," said Franklin.

Franklin spoke to the crowd of military service members, National Park

Personnel and visitors about the Navy's energy goals.

"One of the five goals is to demonstrate and then deploy a 'Great Green Fleet,' which will include ships and aircraft using alternative sources of energy and utilizing multiple energy conser-

vation measures as part of their regular, scheduled deployments through the calendar year in 2016," said Franklin.

"The 'Great Green Fleet' represents the new normal, where our Navy values energy as a strategic resource,

maximizing energy efficiencies and cultivating multiple sources of alternative energy," he said.

Additionally, the ceremony honored the National Park Service and celebrated National Park Week. Paul DePrey, the superintendent of the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument, described the celebration.

"National Park Week is a presidentially-proclaimed celebration of our national heritage. It helps people recognize the importance of national parks in their lives. Almost every national park has a celebration, event or commemoration during National Park Week," said DePrey.

This year's National Park Week is the kickoff of the Centennial Initiative 2016 of the National Park Service.

According to DePrey, the

initiative was undertaken to prepare national parks for another century of conservation, preservation, education and enjoyment.

"This is the beginning of a new century of the National Park Service caring for these treasures we call our national parks," said DePrey. "So our challenge to you is to get out there, find your park, and take part in many of the amazing opportunities to be found."

Sponsored by Navy Region Hawaii in coordination with the National Park Service, Pearl Harbor Colors, held once a month, is an opportunity for local residents and international visitors to witness a U.S. military ceremony and international visitors to witness a U.S. military ceremony, featuring the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, the Joint Base Honors and Ceremonies Guard and an official observance of "morning colors."

## Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center hosts Earth Day fair

Patricia Matthews

Naval Supply Fleet  
Logistics Center Pearl  
Harbor

Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor (NAV-SUP FLC PH) hosted its 6th annual Earth Day Fair as part of its commitment to care for the environment and its natural resources.

This year's Earth Day theme was, "A Sustainable Future Begins with You."

The Department of Defense and other agencies that participated in this event shared the commitment to educate, advocate and inform the community about the available earth-friendly initiatives and programs in place to protect the environment and precious resources.

Representatives displayed exhibits from organizations and programs such as the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX), Naval Facilities Engineering Command Cultural Resources, Navy Energy Team, alternative fuel vehicles (i.e., hydrogen powered bus from Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies), Navy Recycling Center, Navy Region Housing En-

ergy Team, City & County of Honolulu and others.

Ashley Gapele from the NEX encouraged shoppers to "think eco-friendly before anything else" and noted the many energy smart options of items such as light bulbs, product packaging made of recycled materials, energy smart appliances, etc., available at the NEX.

She also reminded customers to bring in their own

reusable bags to benefit from the five cents off savings per bag while helping to reduce waste.

In addition to hosting the Earth Day Fair, personnel from NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center coordinated an educational event at the Navy Hale Keiki Elementary School.

Shari Gullede, Navy Hale Keiki School director, helped distribute the certifi-

cates of appreciation and gave thanks to the active duty personnel for their long-standing partnership and support to the school throughout the years.

Sailors later visited the classrooms to read books to the students about conservation, recycling, reducing water use, minimizing waste and other ways they can help protect the Earth's resources by "going green."

## Hickam Communities observes Earth Day with 'trashion' show

Story and photo by  
Hickam Communities

Each year Hickam Communities celebrates Earth Day in a different way. This year's theme was fashion—trashion fashion that is. Residents were challenged to design a costume for a fashion show using materials that would normally be tossed in the trash, and everyone was surprised to find out just how many residents take recycling seriously.

"My husband and I are avid recyclers and since I love Project Runway, I was so excited when I saw this program and had to make something," said Erin Diciolla, a Hickam Communities resident who participated in Hickam



Hickam Communities Earth Day "trashion" show participants model their shoe designs.

Communities Earth Day celebration held April 22.

From trash bags to bottle caps, residents modeled their designs with pride. Three very excited students worked on their dress designs for several days. "We wanted to do it for fun and we love crafts," said 12-year old Kaleea Korunka. "Now we want to make way more crafts with junk!"

In addition to the trashion show, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Energy, Storm Water Management, Recycling and Exchange provided education, displays and information to attendees in an effort to promote renewable energy, waste reduction, and sustainable communities.

In addition, Hickam Communities re-launched its SYNERGY program to help create awareness among its residents about their role in helping the Department of Defense meet its conservation goals. SYNERGY – Saving Our Nation's Energy, Conserving Our Resources – seeks to generate awareness of the impacts of energy use and consumption of natural resources and share information on how we can reduce consumption and conserve in our daily lives. Families are encouraged to learn about conservation and make a difference at home, at work and even in their community.

(For more information, visit [www.hickamcommunities.com/go/SYNERGY](http://www.hickamcommunities.com/go/SYNERGY).)

## Hawaii ships, shore lead in 'LED-ing' for energy security

Lt. Corbin Dryden

Navy Region Hawaii Public  
Affairs

As Earth Month continues, the Navy in Hawaii conducted the second installment of Earth Day themed interview segments April 16 to highlight energy conservation at shore installations and at sea.

Kate Ramirez of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii (NAVFAC) and Lt. Cmdr. Robert Franklin III, operations officer for Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, appeared on the local FOX affiliate KHON2's morning show to discuss energy conservation initiatives, both ashore and at sea.

Light emitting diodes (LED) lights are making their way onto ships and are already in use ashore in an effort to reduce energy consumption, protect the environment and save money.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) is home to the first LED-equipped U.S. Navy ship, the guided-missile destroyer USS Chaffee (DDG 90), according to Franklin.

"Just like in our homes or workplaces we're interested — in the Navy — in saving energy any way we can on our ships, whether we're at sea operating or whether we are plugged into our piers at Pearl Harbor," said Franklin, who demonstrated the difference in energy use between old

incandescent bulbs and new LEDs.

"We know we can save about \$50,000 per year, per ship with this. Our ability to keep our ships and aircraft on station and on mission is directly tied to how much energy we use, so we take it very seriously," he said.

LEDs save not only money but also time and the environment.

"It's a great benefit for our Sailors and the environment as well. Our Sailors spend less time changing out light bulbs. And for the environment, these LED lights don't contain any hazardous material so they're cleaner and they're safer for the environment," Franklin said.

The move toward LED

lighting on ships began at Pearl Harbor, with installation aboard Chaffee in 2011. Other Pearl Harbor-based DDGs have either received the installation or will within the year.

"We're extremely proud of two of our own ships in Hawaii, the Chaffee and the Preble (DDG 88), for leading the charge. They are the first two ships in the Navy to fully convert each of their lights — that's over 4,000 per ship — to LED," said Franklin.

Navy leaders recently announced LED lights will be the standard for all new ship construction. LED technology is also considered a bright idea ashore and key to sustainability.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Hickam uses LED lights on one of its most visible holiday displays, the Freedom Tower at Hickam.

For the past 45 years, the 171-foot high, 76-year old water tower, dubbed the "Freedom Tower," has been illuminated at night during the holiday season, and 2014 marked the first year LED lights were used.

"We upgraded from a 25-watt incandescent ... to a 5-watt LED," Ramirez said.

"We have over 7,000 light bulbs on the Freedom Tower, and that's about an 80 percent drop in the system wattage. We figure that saved us about \$660 just over the four-week holiday season," Ramirez added.

A working power meter was brought into the

KHON2 studio to compare the power consumed by both incandescent and LED light bulbs. As soon as the meter was switched over to the LED bulb, Ramirez pointed out the difference.

"That black disc slows down quite a bit, showing you the LED is using significantly less energy," she said.

Various energy security demonstrations are being held throughout the month at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange and other locations, including at the Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony April 23 at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

Earth Day is April 22. Several events were held at various Navy locations in Hawaii throughout the week of April 20-24.

Commentary

# Navy emphasizes 'Sustainable Future Begins with You'

Ray Mabus

Secretary of the Navy



Ray Mabus

The Department of the Navy's (DON) FY14-16 Transformation Plan highlights "presence" as what the Navy and Marine Corps are all about.

Undersea, on the sea, in the air, and on the ground, our Navy and Marine Corps team, uniform and civilian, represents our nation around the world.

Your actions each and every day contribute to our ability to maintain presence by embracing a sustainable future for our top priorities — people, platform, power and partnerships. This Earth Day we recognize and celebrate DON's sustainability efforts with the 2015 Earth Day theme, "A Sustainable Future Begins with You."

Earth Day events first took place on April

22, 1970, when concerned citizens joined together to raise public awareness of the effects of chemicals and industrial processes on our air and water supplies.

The first Earth Day helped inspire a shift in consciousness about the importance of protecting our planet's resources.

Over the last 45 years,

Earth Day has grown into a major worldwide event that inspires sustainable resource use.

Just as the citizens in 1970 were concerned for the future of the environment, today we plan a sustainable future for the DON to accomplish its mission in a resource constrained world. So we make an extra effort on and around April 22, to contribute to a better, sustainable environment, for our Sailors, Marines and civilians.

Achieving a sustainable future requires thoughtful stewardship of resources and the environment. DON remains focused on sustaining forward presence around the globe 24 hours per day, seven days per week, ready to respond to emerging threats, lend assistance during natural disasters and other humanitarian crises, and

protect global commerce.

Smart energy use makes us better warfighters through extending our range, reducing our refueling requirements, and increasing the energy security of our installations, all while benefiting the environment. Common sense protection of the environment maintains trust with the public and the regulatory community while helping to ensure that unintended impacts to wildlife and habitat do not degrade our ability to conduct training and testing or to operate our ships, aircraft, facilities and tactical equipment.

Environmental stewardship and energy efficiency is part of our DON culture. This is evident by the numerous Sailors, Marines, and civilians who participate in Earth Day events and the environmental stewardship being implemented in all

reasonable facets of our processes.

Our ship watchstanders scan the waters for marine life and Marines conserve desert turtles' habitat in warfare training areas.

We battle the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetles in Hawaii and construct tunnels to support the endangered salmonids' migration in Washington.

We replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs on our ships and at installations to shed better light and use less energy.

DON personnel ashore and afloat are innovative and take ownership of efforts to conserve water, divert solid waste, minimize hazardous waste, and recycle. These are just a few examples of what you and your shipmates do every day to sustain our national security.

I encourage each of you

to take action to protect and preserve. As you have done on previous Earth Days, participate in a recycling program, or a beach or neighborhood cleanup.

Maintain and enhance your efforts to reduce waste and use energy wisely. Whatever action you take, remember that local efforts like yours help us to ensure we have the resources we need to continue our global mission into the future.

Information and resources for developing and executing Earth Day events is available at <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/environment/earth-day/>.

As always, I am proud to see the tremendous effort put forth by all members of the department as you demonstrate our strong commitment to protecting the United States of America and our planet.

## Diverse Views



What does "going green" mean to you?



Master Sgt. Dennis Leskovec  
HQ PACAF

"Going green means that we as an organization are looking for a more efficient way of handling our energy. Through the budget and personnel cuts happening in the USAF, we must find ways to save funding. Going Green is not only friendly on the environment, but this may also save an Airman's career through budget limitations."

GM2 Arielle Roman  
First Lt. Division



"Going green means finding and utilizing alternative fuels in society to become more efficient for the environment."



Capt. Kayla Beach  
8th Intelligence Squadron

"When I think of going green, I think of making decisions that are more conscious of the environment. In the past, a lot of people weren't concerned with the earth, and the going green movement is basically a unified effort to be more environmentally friendly. To me, this means taking the extra time to recycle and buy eco-friendly products."

ET2 Jayden Dang  
USS Port Royal (CG 73)



"Protecting the environment by recycling. We in Hawaii need to become more environmentally aware and should follow waste separation guidelines used in many states to help reduce excess waste."



Tech. Sgt. Jan Aragon  
792 Intelligence Support Squadron

"Going green for me is a total change of mindset. It's a change in how we will do business in the future; how we as stewards of the environment will try to lessen our negative impact on it. I really want to believe it means that, so my kids and their kids have something for their future."

MM1 Lance Hempel  
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard



"Helping to protect the environment."



CTN2 Jmese White  
NIOC HAWAII

"Going green is a good thing for our environment because it helps to protect the planet by properly recycling items. We have one planet. It is important that we take care of it."

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)

## STORY IDEAS?

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

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## NCIS focuses on sexual assault awareness, prevention

### NCIS Crime Reduction Program

The NCIS Crime Reduction Program (CRP) has been focusing its efforts on the prevention of sexual assaults. The CRP is an awareness and ed-



ucation program which unites law enforcement and community service organizations with a shared goal of educating Sailors, Marines and Department of the Navy civilians about common threats to their safety.

With the increasing focus on sexual assault prevention, NCIS wants to remind you that no means no and

to intervene if you are a bystander and foresee a situation where someone is about to fall victim to sexual assault.

For more information during Sexual Assault Prevention Month, contact your local NCIS office at 474.1218. Text tip info to 1-877-579-3648. Text "NCIS" plus your tip info to CRIMES (274637)/DOD SAFELINE: 1.877.955.5247.

## DMV office at Pearl Harbor to close April 30

The City & County of Honolulu's Satellite Vehicle Registration Office located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will close on April 30 until further notice. Please visit one of the other nine Satellite City Hall locations on Oahu: <http://www1.honolulu.gov/csd/satellite/>.

## USS Sigsbee hit by kamikaze attack



Official U.S. Navy photo

This is a photo taken from the USS Miami (CL 89) of the USS Sigsbee (DD 502). In April 1945, Sigsbee was struck by a kamikaze attack, resulting in 23 casualties to the crew and nearly destroying the ship. Rear Adm. Gordon Pariea Chung-Hoon commanded Sigsbee, which operated in the Pacific during World War II. Despite the damage, Chung-Hoon kept firing and led damage control efforts, allowing the ship to make it back to port. The attack took place 70 years ago this month.

## HO'OKELE

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# PMRF, partners offer Earth Day activities for students

**Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs**

**PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FACILITY** – More than 250 students from two local schools participated in a variety of environmental awareness activities held April 22 at Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Barking Sands, Kauai in celebration of Earth Day.

Students from Ke Ke Kula Niihau o Kekaha, a Hawaiian language charter school in Kekaha, and Waimea Canyon Middle School joined PMRF Sailors in a beach cleanup as well as rotating through a dozen educational stations set up by various government agencies and non-profit partner organizations.

“This Earth Day event promotes awareness of resources, conservation, pono behavior and teaches students how to care for their health and the health of the environment,” said event planner Jean Souza, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Kauai programs coordinator and Hawaiian Islands



Janis Kimata, Barking Sands Fire Department trainer at PMRF, talks about fire safety and water rescue operations to local middle school students during Earth Day 2015 activities sponsored by the base.

Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) volunteer coordinator.

“At PMRF, where there have been a number of notable environmental initiatives and where natural and cultural resources abound, this is an ideal setting for learning in an outdoor, shoreline setting,” she explained.

The nearby DLNR-managed (Department of Land

and Natural Resources) waterbird wetlands sanctuary was also one of the stops where students were able to observe endangered birds in a natural habitat under the guidance of Division of Forestry and Wildlife specialists.

All of the students rotated through the education stations set up at Major’s Bay recreation area and participated in one of four field activities:

beach cleanup, work at the Kawaiie Waterbird Sanctuary, seabird education at the base’s protected wedgetail shearwater colony, and learning about the seasonal changes affecting sand deposits on Kauai beaches and particularly at Majors Bay with earth scientist and sedimentary geologist, Dr. Chuck Blay.

In addition to Navy natural resources biologists and environmental specialists,

NOAA, HIHWNMS and DLNR, other organizations supporting the event with representatives providing hands-on learning included the Kauai Invasive Species Committee, Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii, Papanāumokuākea Marine National Monument, Kokee Resource Conservation Program and the Alu Like Native Hawaiian awareness organization.

The education stations featured programs and activities on pono fishing, barbless fishhooks, opihi studies, fishing regulations, impact of marine debris on wildlife, stop smoking, ahupuaa and moku education, weather and climate change, boats, native forests and plants, invasive species, and careers related to these fields.

“This is a great opportunity to provide our keiki with a better understanding of the cultural and natural resources where they live,” said Roland Sagum, PMRF Earth Day 2015 organizer and the base’s community planning and liaison officer.

“We are the host in being

able to offer the settings and facilities in which learning can take place. The field activities focus on some of the environmental initiatives that PMRF has in place. However, we would not be able to provide such a wide scope of educational programs to our westside youth without the amazing support and partnership of the many community organizations involved,” Sagum said.

County of Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho Jr. made an appearance to tour the stations and talk to the students about the importance of caring for the island’s cultural and natural resources— emphasizing that environmental stewardship is everybody’s kuleana and starts with them.

Capt. Bruce Hay, PMRF commanding officer, remarked in his welcome to the students —“Today we observe Earth Day, but really, every day should be Earth Day.”

Lunch off the grill for the students and volunteers was donated by Sailors from PMRF’s Military Support Organization.

## Flight of Pacific Golden Plover: Tiny long distance aviators departing

**Story and photo by Becky Hommon**

*Navy Region Hawaii Environmental Counsel*

Yes, it’s spring. Oahu’s Pacific Golden Plovers have donned their flight suits, loaded up with fat, and will soon wing more than 2,500 miles nonstop across the ocean to the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea.

This time of year, the

breeding male members of the population change from a drab brown to a black vest with a white swoosh. Their backs become dappled golden. The change of coloring signals they are ready to head to their favorite Artic nesting areas. Soon their tiny brains will tell them to gather up with others and head north.

Over the last few weeks, their body weight, measured in grams, has nearly doubled to get them across

the ocean for their non-stop flight.

Now protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the population of Pacific Golden Plovers increased after hunting of them halted.

“Today, all migratory birds’ populations are facing challenges as a result of habitat loss due to human development and climate change, especially in the Pacific islands. Free-roaming cats also pose a threat

to these particular migratory birds given their habit of foraging on residential lawns,” said Dr. Cory Campora, natural resources program manager for Navy Region Hawaii at Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii.

Campora also noted that he fears for their safety from traffic as the birds tend to poke for bugs alongside roadways.

Soon they will head off to their rural nesting areas.

Watch for the return of these long distance navigational experts in mid-August. Their distinctive sunset call will tell us that summer’s end approaches.

We wish these ocean-going aviators safe flying, fair winds, or as is said in Hawaiian, “a hui hou” — until we meet again.

A breeding male Pacific Golden Plover shows off his spring flight suit before departing Oahu for Alaska. These migratory birds will soon head off across the ocean to their summer nesting ground.



# Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



Yeoman Seaman Jonathan Swager commits flowers to the sea for each crew member of USS Sigsbee who lost their life during the attack on April 14, 1945.

U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Kimberly Fair

(Right) Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Katrina Vong, assigned to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73), gives thumbs-up after checking her gas mask during a chlorobenzylidene malononitrile or CS gas exposure training at the Surface Warfare Officers School Engineering Learning Site Pearl Harbor. As part of the training, Sailors removed their masks in a gas-filled confidence chamber to practice proper sealing and purging of the gas masks after exposure as well as to gain confidence and experience in proper operation of equipment.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

Hull Maintenance Technician 1st Class Tak Wai Chan, assigned to the guided-missile destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77), secures a back pressure regulating valve during the foam generation systems operations and maintenance training and labs held April 21 at the Surface Warfare Officers School, Engineering Learning Site Pearl Harbor.

(Right) Culinary Specialist 1st Class Jannie Bueso displays a sign promoting Sexual Assault Awareness month April 16 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Sexual Assault Prevention team displayed their signs at the base's main gate during morning rush hour to raise awareness about sexual assault prevention.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jeff Troutman



(Left) Republic of Korea sailors and Sailors from the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) render honors April 21 at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery during an observance ceremony in Busan, Republic of Korea.

U.S. Navy photo courtesy of the Republic of Korea Navy



Republic of Korea Navy welcomes crew of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) April 15 as the ship arrives in Donghae.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Alonzo M. Archer



(Above) Gunner's Mate 2nd class Raymond Oliveros fires a .50-caliber machine gun April 14 from the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88).

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Alonzo M. Archer

# Pearl Harbor plants pinwheels for child abuse prevention

Story and photo by  
MC3 Gabrielle Joyner

Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element West Det. Hawaii

Teachers and students from Pearl Harbor Elementary School and Radford High School gathered at the Moanalua Navy Services Center building on April 20 to participate in a Pinwheels for Prevention event.

It was hosted by Military and Family Support Center (MFSC) in an effort to raise awareness for National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month.

Participants watched awareness performances by the high school students. They planted blue and silver pinwheels on the lawn of the center to symbolize child abuse and neglect prevention.

"The pinwheel is a national symbol for Child Abuse Prevention Month. When the sun shines on the pinwheel, it symbolizes hope for a bright future for the children and when the wind blows on it, it spreads the message for the future of each child, providing a good, safe environment for them," said Kristy Chong, family advocacy program (FAP) prevention and education specialist at MFSC Pearl Harbor.

Pinwheels for Prevention provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations alike to take action by learning more



Pearl Harbor Elementary School students plant pinwheels during a Pinwheels for Prevention event April 20 in front of the Military, and Family Support Center (MFSC) Pearl Harbor.

about prevention, supporting child, family friendly policies and volunteer opportunities at local, state and national levels.

Troy Freitas, peer education teacher at Radford High School, explained that the school goes to the various elementary schools around Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam once a year to talk about bullying and respect. He said there was great value in partnering with FAP to support the Pinwheels for Prevention event.

"We are happy to be a part of this collaboration and I think it was a successful day," said Freitas. "We are focused on teaching the kids something very simple. What we want them to come away with is they should love themselves, as well as others, and that they should be treated with love."

FAP works to prevent abuse by offering educational programs to put a stop to domestic abuse before it starts and works to ensure the safety of victims, as well as to help military families overcome the effects of violence and change destructive behavior patterns.

"I believe it's important for everyone to know that each person can make a difference in a child's life," said Chong. "Each adult has the opportunity to give a child a voice, and we should do whatever we can help prevent incidents of child abuse and neglect, such as helping out a parent in need. It starts with the little things and the little things go a long way."

# Hickam Redemption Center is open for business

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

After being closed for more than a year, the Hickam Redemption Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam reopened earlier this year. Service members, their families and civilians with base access can bring bottles and cans to the center and receive vouchers that can be redeemed at the main Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange aloha desk in the rotunda.

The Hickam Redemption Center processes about a ton of recyclables a month and is an integral part of the military's efforts to be green and embrace environmental stewardship.

"The most important reason for the Navy's recy-

cling program in Hawaii is to lower trash disposal costs by reducing the amount of materials taken to our island landfills," said Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii's Richard Villa, assistant program manager for the Navy Region Hawaii Recycling Program. "Not everything we recycle is of great value; however, we live on an island, and any contribution we can make to reduce our



need to send materials to the landfill is significant."

The Hickam Redemption Center is located at Kuntz Avenue, building 1715, right inside Kuntz Gate in the third warehouse. It is open noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a. m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Henry Patu, recycling redemption associate, assists an Airman at the Hickam Redemption Center.

# Holocaust Remembrance Day service held at Aloha Jewish Chapel

**Brandon Bosworth**

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

A Holocaust Remembrance Day service was held April 16 at the Aloha Jewish Chapel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. It also marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

The ceremony included readings of testimony from Sigmund Strochlitz, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, as well as from the official report of Lt. Col. R.I.G. Taylor, the commanding officer of the 63rd AntiTank Regiment, who participated in the camp's liberation in 1945.

The purpose of Holocaust Remembrance Day is not only to remember those who were murdered, but also to



Daniel A. Bender, Reform Jewish educator, shows service members and civilian observers a "Holocaust Torah," thought to be made during WWII, during a recognition ceremony to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day April 16 at the Aloha Jewish Chapel.

celebrate the resilience and vitality of the Jewish people.

"We are still here," said Daniel Bender, lay leader at the chapel. "And you are here with us. We are a vi-

brant community. We are alive and looking forward to the future."

Six candles were lit, with each candle representing one millions Jews killed by the Nazi regime

during the Holocaust.

The service concluded with the singing of the funeral prayer "El male rachamim" and a recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish. Rear Adm. Rick

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Gabrielle Joyner

Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, offered some closing thoughts.

"Your very presence honors the memory of the vic-

tims, acknowledges the strength and courage of those who intervened, and serves as a call to defend and protect those that may not have the means to do so for themselves," he said.

"This observance has provided all of us with the opportunity to reflect upon this cataclysmic event. The Holocaust—the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators—should forever remain a stain on the fabric of our existence," Williams said.

In thanking the event's attendees, Williams said, "The theme for this year's observance, provided to us by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, is 'Learning from the Holocaust: Choosing to Act.' By making the conscious decision to be a part of this observance, you have chosen to act."

## DoD announces decision to disinter unaccounted-for service members

**Department of Defense**

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced April 14 that the remains of up to 388 unaccounted-for Sailors and Marines, associated with the USS Oklahoma, will be exhumed later this year.

Upon disinterment, the remains will be transferred to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) laboratory in Hawaii for examination. Analysis of all available evidence indicates that most USS Oklahoma crew members can be identified upon disinterment.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work approved the disinterment of unknowns associated with the USS Oklahoma and also established a broader DoD policy.

"The secretary of defense and I will work tirelessly to ensure your loved one's remains will be recovered, identified and returned to you as expeditiously as possible, and we will do so with dignity, respect and care," said Work.

"While not all families will re-

ceive an individual identification, we will strive to provide resolution to as many families as possible," he said.

"Most of the families are very humble and are just glad this is being done," said Ray Emory, a Pearl Harbor survivor and advocate for a greater accounting of those who lost their lives on the Oklahoma.

The disinterment policy applies to all unidentified remains from the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) and other permanent American military cemeteries. However, this policy does not extend to those Sailor and Marines lost at sea or to remains entombed in U.S. Navy vessels serving as national memorials.

The threshold criteria includes research, family reference samples to compare DNA, obtaining medical and dental records of the missing service members, and having the scientific ability and capacity to identify the remains in a timely manner.

To disinter cases of commingled remains, the department must estimate the ability to identify at least 60 percent of the individuals associated with a group. A likelihood of at least 50 percent identification must be attained for individual unknowns.

"The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency is prepared to begin this solemn undertaking in concert with ongoing worldwide recovery missions. Personally, I am most privileged to be part of this honorable mission, and I very much appreciate the efforts of many people who saw this revised disinterment policy come to fruition," said Rear Adm. Mike Franken, DPAA acting director.

On Dec. 7, 1941, the USS Oklahoma sank when it was hit by torpedoes, during the Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor. A total of 429 Sailors and Marines were killed. In the years immediately following the attacks, 35 crew members were positively identified and buried.

From June 1942 to May 1944,

during salvage operations, the remaining service members' remains were removed from the ship and initially interred as unknowns, in Nuuanu and Halawa cemeteries in Hawaii.

In 1947, all remains in those cemeteries were disinterred for attempted identification. Twenty-seven unknowns from the USS Oklahoma were proposed for identification based on dental comparisons, but all proposed identifications were disapproved.

By 1950, all unidentified remains associated with the ship were re-interred as unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, commonly known as the Punchbowl.

In 2003, the DoD laboratory in Hawaii disinterred one casket containing USS Oklahoma remains based on historical evidence provided by Emory. The evidence helped establish the identification of five servicemen. However, the casket contained the remains of up to 100 men who have not yet been identified.

Reflecting on the efforts to provide a fuller accounting of those who perished aboard the USS Oklahoma, Emory said, "I've had good times and bad times going through this. Now I'm just happy that someone is finally doing something."

Analysis of remains will begin immediately after their arrival into the DPAA laboratory and will utilize current forensic tools and techniques, including DNA testing. Service members who are identified will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

Navy and Marine Corps casualty offices have already begun notifying the next-of-kin.

(For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil) or call 703-699-1420.)

(Brandon Bosworth, assistant editor for Ho'okele, contributed to this story.)

# Military kids get surprise of lifetime at their school

Story and photo by  
Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

Celebrating the Month of the Military Child just got better for second grader Ian Bager and his little sister Aberdeen (4 years old) when their mother surprised them at their school upon returning home from almost six months in Iraq.

During morning flag time on April 15, which was Purple Up day celebrating the military child, the Navy Hale Keiki School (NHKS) planned special activities recognizing military students. Aberdeen (Abbie) held the flag, and Ian was at the microphone discussing what it means to him to be a military child.

Then Shari Gullede, school director, stepped up surrounded by the students to announce, "We have a very special mom this morning who has returned from deployment."

It was then that Lt. Col Jennifer Bager strolled across the campus through the sea of purple to her shocked children who hugged her and held onto her. "Mommy?" said Abbie as she kept looking up at Bager and then grabbing her around the neck repeatedly. It was a moment that numerous military



Army Lt. Col. Jennifer Bager surprised her son, Ian, and daughter, Abbie, at Navy Hale Keiki School on April 15 after returning from deployment to Iraq.

families have faced, yet the emotional impact witnessing such a reunion was overwhelming for many in attendance.

"This is a wonderful family that deserves every specialness," said Monique Radizuner, Ian's teacher. "I kept looking at Ian all morning just thinking, I hugged your momma this morning, and soon you will, too."

Jennifer's husband, Retired Army Lt. Col. Scott Bager, commented, "It's been a new way to adjust to living with mom so far away. I thank NHKS for the continued support they give to so many families."

She is the Tripler Army Medical Center chief of otolaryngology (ears, nose and throat) and was deployed to the 67th Forward Surgical Team in Erbil, Northern Iraq.

"It was actually quite beautiful there," said Jennifer. "We set up medical units on the runways at the airport and served the American and Allied forces," she said.

"We were worried about her over there," said her husband, who retired from the Army in October 2011. "It was the first time for her to be away from the family, and I was starting a new job. It was very different being the one left behind," he shared.

The United States has more

than 1.9 million military children, according to the [Dodlive.mil](http://Dodlive.mil) website. "Over the years, our school has learned the special needs of these unique families. We also celebrate the resiliency, the strength, the pride and the talent of each military child," said Gullede.

Despite postwar drawdowns, the United States has military personnel deployed in about 150 countries covering 75 percent of the world's nations, according to [Vetfriends.com](http://Vetfriends.com). The transition from Operation Enduring Freedom to Resolute Support commenced in January 2015. More than 10,000 troops have remained in Afghanistan and more will deploy to Iraq, Europe and the Pacific.

As long as the U.S. has troops overseas, there will be children waiting for parents to come home. Jennifer said that communication with her children was sometimes the hardest part.

"We were able to Skype, but I could not send any packages home."

The reunited Bager family held hands all together to lead the Purple Up parade for Navy Hale Keiki School. When asked how they will spend their first day together again, Ian had a plan. "I want to eat ice cream and watch my new movies."

# Late Navy SEAL Michael Murphy honored in Ireland

MC1 Sean Spratt

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element East Det.  
Europe

KINSALE, Ireland — The Irish Veterans Association held a dedication ceremony to commemorate the first Irish Veterans Post in honor of fallen American Lt. (SEAL) Michael Murphy in the chapter's headquarters April 18.

The Irish Veterans Association was started as a way to unite all who identify themselves as Irish

and who are military veterans, or who are interested in their shared history.

"Our mission is to tell the stories of the Irish and those of Irish heritage who have served in other forces over the years," said James Sikora, executive director of the Irish Veterans Association.

"We are trying to join all the dots and speak to all Irish and those of Irish heritage globally ... to create a network of people who identify as being Irish and as being veterans."

Sikora, who grew up in

Ireland but served eight years in the U.S. Army infantry — having deployed to the middle east, Europe, Latin America, former Yugoslavia and Iraq — explained that the Irish Veterans chose to name the first post after Lt. (SEAL) Michael Murphy because of his Irish heritage and his actions in Afghanistan in June 2005.

Murphy's story has become well known due to the book "Lone Survivor," and the subsequent movie of the same name, as told by the single surviving SEAL from Operation Red

Wings, Marcus Luttrell.

"Michael's story is remarkable and we hope that through research and by connecting Irish veterans around the world that we will be able to document the remarkable unknown stories of Irish veterans," Sikora said. "These stories are important for the Irish people and Irish veterans from other countries to know."

The association is hoping to have several more Irish veterans posts throughout Ireland, as well as other countries, as a place where veterans of

Irish decent can share the common bond of both heritage and military service.

U.S. Ambassador Kevin O'Malley, representatives from the U.S. Naval Special Warfare community, and Sailors from the guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) were in attendance at the ceremony in the White House Hotel where the Irish Veterans Post 001 dedicated a plaque to the memory of Lt. (SEAL) Michael Murphy.

"It's incredible to have a member of the U.S. Navy

SEALs and Sailors from the USS Michael Murphy here in Kinsale for this ceremony," said Sikora. "Their presence and that of Michael's parents, Dan and Maureen, and brother John, made the event unbelievably special."

Murphy was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in October 2007 for his actions in the mountains of Afghanistan in June 2005. USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112), homeported at Pearl Harbor, was commissioned in New York City on Oct. 6, 2012.



# Chung-Hoon Sailors honor ship's namesake and USS Sigsbee

**Ensign  
James C. Robinson**

*USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) Public Affairs*

The Sailors of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) gathered April 14 for a formal ceremony that was held in honor of the men who fought and gave their lives for their country in 1945 aboard USS Sigsbee.

The ceremony was complete with a color guard, benediction, three-volley salute, and honorary bells for those killed in the attack. The crew assembled on the flight deck to hear remarks by Cmdr. Ryan Collins, commanding officer of Chung-Hoon.

"Sigsbee was dealt a blow that could have been mortal on that fateful day, but clearly it was not. Why? What was it that kept her afloat that day? I would offer that it was the same thing that helped America recover after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was courage—strength in the face of adversity, the ability and willingness to confront fear, courage," said Collins.

"As we forge the next link in our naval heritage, we

take time to remember what Adm. Chung-Hoon and his crew did on that day," Collins said.

According to the Navy Cross citation of Rear Adm. Gordon Paiea Chung-Hoon, "Although his ship suffered major damage when struck by an enemy plane and all power was lost, Cmdr. Chung-Hoon coolly carried out defensive maneuvers and directed his anti-aircraft batteries in delivering prolonged and effective fire against the continued heavy enemy air attack."

Rear Adm. Chung-Hoon, the namesake of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), commanded the USS Sigsbee (DD 502) which operated in the World War II Pacific theatre. Under the command of then Cmdr. Chung-Hoon, Sigsbee participated in numerous naval battles, shooting down at least 20 enemy aircraft while screening a carrier strike force off the coast of Japan.

In April 1945, Sigsbee was struck by a kamikaze attack, resulting in 23 casualties to the crew and nearly destroying the ship. Despite the damage, Chung-Hoon kept his anti-aircraft batteries



U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Kimberly Fair on April 14, 1945.

firing while simultaneously conducting the damage control efforts that allowed Sigsbee to make it back to port under its own power. For these heroic efforts, Chung-Hoon was awarded both the Silver

Star and Navy Cross.

"It was really moving and a great reminder that the mission onboard Chung-Hoon is bigger than each of us," said Fire Controlman 3rd Class Tiffany Jensen.

"Ceremonies like this

help to keep us motivated and give everyone a chance to remember the Sailors who sacrificed so much to give us the freedoms we enjoy today," said Cmdr. Tom Ogden, Chung-Hoon's executive officer.

The ceremony marked the 70th anniversary of the attack on USS Sigsbee.

USS Chung-Hoon continues through the basic training phase in preparation for a western Pacific deployment later in 2015.

## Seabees from CBMU 303 complete upgrade project at Puuloa rifle range

**Construction Electrician 2nd Class (SCW) Lisa A. Spherhake**

*Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Detachment Pearl Harbor*

Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 (CBMU 303) Detachment Pearl Harbor completed upgrades to the Puuloa rifle range on April 9.

To modernize training practices, the United States Marine Corps is utilizing the moving target system (MIT). This allows for practice at shooting moving targets instead of the traditional stationary ones.

The Seabees from CBMU 303 Detachment Pearl Harbor were tasked with improving the range to prepare for the MIT system to be installed. The plan was to

construct a 200-foot concrete trench as well as a new electrical distribution system.

Builder 2nd Class (SCW) William Corrigan led the crew and oversaw all operations for the duration of the project at the construction site.

"It was a challenging yet rewarding experience leading a crew for the first time. For the majority of the crew, it was a great learning opportunity, constructing the vertical concrete walls, as it is not something that's normally done within our project scope," he said.

While most of the crew has had years of project experience, this was the first construction project for a few younger Seabees. Builder Constructionmen (BUCR) Alejandra Chavez arrived at CBMU 303 in January 2015 from builder "A" school and was immediately

able to get started.

"I didn't really know what to expect, but the rest of the crew was very helpful, and it was great to work in my builder rate and learn how a Seabee project works," she said.

Situated in Ewa Beach along the Pacific Ocean, the Puuloa rifle range was acquired by the Navy in 1916 and was turned into a small arms range and training facility. In 1970, it officially became a Marine Corps base. As the Vietnam War picked up, it was realized that more intense training was necessary and incorporated sniper training which is still done today.

U.S. Navy photo by SW2 (SCW) William Stimson Seabees from CBMU 303 Detachment Pearl Harbor place concrete for the back wall at the Puuloa rifle range.

