

Happy Birthday AMERICA

HO'OKELE

“Navigator”

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

July 3, 2015 www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii www.hookelenews.com Volume 6 Issue 25



U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth
Sailors from Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam wave signs July 2 near the Makalapa Gate to remind drivers to practice safety during the upcoming July 4 holiday weekend.

JBP HH ready to rock to celebrate Fourth of July

Joint Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Joint Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host a Fourth of July celebration from 3 to 9 p.m. Saturday at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

A variety of festivities and entertainment are planned, including one of the largest fireworks shows on the island to end the night.

Presented by Navy Entertainment, headliners Dishwalla, and O.A.R. (Of a Revolution), will take the stage prior to the fireworks. In

addition, Aaron Colton, a street bike stunt rider, will perform a free exhibition and hold an autograph session.

Below is a schedule of events:

- 3 p.m., gates open.
- 4:30 p.m., performance and autograph session by Aaron Colton, street bike stunt rider.
- 5 p.m., Dishwalla performs.
- 6:30 p.m., lines for free activities close.
- 6:45 p.m., performance and autograph session by Aaron Colton.
- 7:30 p.m., O.A.R. performs.
- 9 p.m., fireworks display.

The event will also include free activities such as a petting zoo, Xpress Train and airbrush tattoos.

Xtreme Fun rides and inflatables, food and beverages will be available for purchase. A variety of food vendors from around the island will participate.

Patrons can enter for a chance to win prizes from sponsor row, including the grand prize of a Las Vegas getaway for two, with airfare, meals and five nights hotel accommodations. Special restrictions and guidelines will apply.

The July 4 car show and shine

will also showcase a variety of vehicles, from domestic to import. Entry categories will include classic, import, truck and club vehicles.

Available parking areas within walking distance to the event will be designated by signage.

Besides the activities at Ward Field, camping at Hickam Harbor and a movie on the beach will be held from today through Saturday at MWR Outdoor Recreation-Hickam Harbor.

The movie (to be determined) will begin at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Camping registration is at the Hickam Harbor Marina and is not required to watch the movie.

Camp setup starts at 4 p.m., and camp breakdown is at 9 a.m. on the next day.

The cost for the site is \$30. There is no charge for the movie.

For more information on the events at Hickam Harbor, call 449-5215.

For more information on all MWR activities, visit www.greatlife.hawaii.com.

(Editor's note: see additional information on page B-4.)

MCPON engages Sailors and families in Hawaii

MC3 Gabrielle Joyner
Navy Public Affairs
Support Element
Detachment Hawaii



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Johans Chavarro
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens speaks with a Sailor during an all-hands call at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens visited Oahu, Hawaii, meeting Sailors, their families and leadership throughout the island during a two-day visit June 30-July 1.

The visit is part of MCPON's fleet engagement.

Stevens held all hands calls at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, where he split Sailors into two groups. One call was for

the junior enlisted E-5 and below, and the second was for the senior enlisted E-6 and above. The focus of the all hands calls was to identify issues impacting today's Navy.

"Coming here, talking with you, and listening to your thoughts, concerns and recommendations are very important to me," said Stevens. "It allows me to gauge the morale of our force, while addressing any concerns you may have."

Stevens started each session with an interactive exercise to gauge how Sailors viewed the overall fleet's morale. The audi-

ence closed their eyes so as to not be influenced by the people around them and voted on whether they thought the Navy's morale was poor, good, good high, excellent or outstanding. The feedback from the junior enlisted and their senior enlisted leadership was similar, with more variation from the good to very good categories.

After the exercise, Stevens opened the floor for questions from the audience. Sailors brought up various issues including exchange and commissary rumors, fitness

See MCPON, A-2

JBP HH, HPD partner up during active shooter exercise

Story and photo by Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

lowed both military and civilian police forces to work together to assess and respond to a threat.

Senior Airman Justin Williams, 647th Security Forces patrolman, was one of the military defenders to participate in the exercise and one of the first responders on scene. He said although he has participated in exercises many times before, he learns something new each time.

"Repetition builds muscle memory," he said. "It may seem like we do a lot of these types of exercises, but having this experience is critical.

"Knowing what you're doing, in addition to discovering what you can improve on, can end up saving lives in the future if something as unfortunate as this happens. I hope it never does, but I



want to be sure I am ready and capable of doing something if it does," he said.

Capt. Jun Park from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security department, oversaw the active-shooter exercise and said having these capabilities requires diligence and dedication, along with patience and the willingness to adapt and change one's game plan.

See EXERCISE, A-2

A member of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam security department secures the area while a suspect is apprehended during an active-shooter exercise, held July 1. (Inset) A participant portraying an 'active-shooter' walks through the Personnel Support Detachment building during an exercise held July 1. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

 <p>70 Years of Peace commemoration to be held at Pearl Harbor on Aug. 15 See page A-2</p>	 <p>'Hiring Our Heroes' job fair, Hawaii transition summits to be held next week See page A-3</p>	 <p>Stay safe this Fourth of July weekend See page B-1</p>
 <p>'It's an honor to lead Navy Region Hawaii/MIDPAC ohana' See page A-3</p>	 <p>Sen. Hirono visits Red Hill See page A-5</p>	 <p>Hawaii Air National Guard wins JPBHH pennant See page B-3</p>

70 Years of Peace commemoration to be held at Pearl Harbor on Aug. 15

Nagaoka fireworks to be launched off Ford Island

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy in Hawaii will join the cities of Honolulu and Nagaoka, Japan in commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II in the Pacific on Aug. 15 on historic Ford Island at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Fireworks will

be launched off the west side of Ford Island.

The public is invited to the events, beginning at 4 p.m. and culminating in Pearl Harbor's first-ever display of Nagaoka's famous fireworks at 8 p.m. to honor the memory of the war's victims and to celebrate 70 years of peace and friendship.

The event is free and open to the public. Activities kick off with food available for purchase, cultural and educational dis-

plays, and entertainment. The official commemorative program starts at 7 p.m. with guest speakers, a youth peace summit declaration, performances by Nagaoka children's choir and HEARTS Hawaii choir, and a special performance of the hit song "Jupiter" by the Japanese singer-songwriter Ayaka Hirahara.

At 8 p.m. the skies above Pearl Harbor and surrounding areas will light up with a gorgeous display of Nagaoka's special fireworks to honor war victims, pursue everlasting peace and friendship, and pave the way for future generations. Music for the fireworks will simulcast live on radio station Hawaiian 105.1 KINE.

The public will be allowed access to Ford Island, with parking available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please plan accordingly for traffic due to the limited lanes on the Ford Island

bridge. Other parking and transportation options will be posted on the website when available at www.cnic.navy.mil/70yearspeace.

Strict security measures will be in place. No large bags, large purses, outside food or beverages, coolers, or tents will be permitted. Visit the website for a complete list of restricted and authorized items. All carry-in items are subject to search.

Command changes for Navy Region Hawaii and MIDPAC

Story and photo by MC2 Jeffrey Troutman

Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment Hawaii

A Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) change of command ceremony was held June 26 at Kilo Pier at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Rear Adm. John Fuller relieved Rear Adm. Rick Williams as commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"It's truly been a wonderful experience for myself and my family during our time here in Hawaii," said Williams.

"I couldn't have asked for a command or a better group of people to work with, and I know Rear Adm. Fuller will enjoy the wonderful challenges and opportunities



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jeff Troutman

Rear Adm. John Fuller speaks during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 26. Fuller relieved Rear Adm. Richard Williams Jr. as commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

that await him here at Pearl Harbor."

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii has leadership oversight of JBPHH on Oahu

and Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai. Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific has leadership oversight of the 11 sur-

face ships homeported in Hawaii.

Vice Adm. Kenneth Floyd, commander of U.S. 3rd Fleet, was keynote speaker

at the ceremony and praised Williams for the accomplishments he achieved in his two years as commander.

"Rear Adm. Williams ensured that every surface group here was ready for whatever awaited them over the horizon, and I know he'll continue to strive for his commitment to excellence at his next command just as he's done for the last 30 years of his career," said Floyd.

"On behalf of the men and women of the Surface Group MIDPAC, Navy Region Hawaii, U.S. 3rd Fleet and the U.S. Navy as a whole, we thank you for your leadership here, and we're proud of both you and the accomplishments you achieved during your time here," Floyd said.

Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, commander of Navy Installations Command, also participated in the ceremony. Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) is re-

sponsible for worldwide shore installation support for what the U.S. Navy under the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). Smith was the Navy Region Hawaii/MIDPAC commander from 2008 to 2011.

Williams has served here since July 2013. He leaves Hawaii to become commander of Carrier Strike Group 15 in San Diego.

Fuller comes to Hawaii after serving as deputy, littoral combat ships, N96, office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

"Rear Adm. Williams has built a great team here at the command in Pearl Harbor, and he's fostered a wonderful turnover to ensure my success in the years ahead," said Fuller. "I look forward to your continued success, and I know that under your leadership, our Pacific forces will always be ready to support and defend this great country of ours."

Shooter exercise hones readiness

Continued from A-1

"Practice makes perfect, and enemy tactics are ever-changing," he said. "We need to be as close to perfect as we can get."

Park also said the military and civilian team dynamic presents new educational opportunities for the JBPHH Security department.

"It's important to get everyone involved," said Park. "Holding these exercises on off-base locations adds a dynamic to our train-

ing which will help us respond effectively. Testing our capabilities and learning how we function when partnering with other agencies helps us evolve as a team."

"We're very fortunate to have the opportunity to partner up with HPD," Park added. "It gives us the chance to learn from each other and discover possible weaknesses in how we operate. This will allow both of our forces to become stronger and better at defending our most valuable asset—our people."

Hickam Redemption Center closed effective July 1

Hickam Redemption Center (HI-5 bottle/can collections) managed by Navy Region Hawaii's recycling program has been immediately shut down as of July 1 until further notice. This is due to new state regulations for HI-5 operations.

Discussions between the Navy and the state are underway, but the out-

come could take a few weeks. In the meantime, personnel who were using the Hickam Redemption Center should look for an alternate redemption location if they need to reduce their bottle/can collections.

Note: All outstanding vouchers will be honored and can be redeemed at the main Navy Exchange Aloha Center.

MCPON discusses diversity in Navy

Continued from A-1

standards and financial concerns. One Sailor expressed his concern about the proposed cut to basic allowance for housing to dual military households, an issue that affects many Sailors and their families.

"I have been involved in this discussion for quite some time," said Stevens.

"Tomorrow, I'll be talking with staff members from the Senate, and I will continue to convey exactly what your concerns are. Senior leadership is committed to help get this right for our Sailors and their families," he said.

Stevens also talked about the importance of diversity when a Sailor brought up women's integration into the subma-

rine force, stating that he was glad for the change and when women are excluded from the field, it is a disservice to the U.S. Navy.

"We are the greatest Navy in the world, no doubt about it, and what I believe makes our Navy so great is our diversity, just like our nation," said Stevens.

According to Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 3rd Class Alyssa Kauffman, the MCPON was good at opening the Sailors up for conversation and made them feel comfortable.

"I feel like the all-hands call went well," said Kauffman. "People had a lot of issues to address and they all had meaning, so I felt like it was a productive conversation."

Master Chief Machinist's Mate Jay Cherland

commented on the integration of first class petty officers with the chief's mess for the senior enlisted session.

"We're incorporating the first classes as future leaders, so it's important for them to see what we do," said Cherland. "I'm glad the MCPON is here in Hawaii and glad we get to talk to him and get some of his points."

While in Hawaii, Stevens also met with Adm. Scott Swift, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, to discuss matters that affect the Navy's Pacific region.

Stevens and his wife Theresa, ombudsman at large, also met with approximately 60 spouses from the local ombudsman team to discuss issues ranging from child development centers to spouse support programs.

NEPMU-6 holds change of charge ceremony

Capt. Raymond D. Stiff passes through the sideboys during a change of charge ceremony held June 24 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. During the ceremony, Capt. Mark Sweargin relieved Capt. Stiff as the new officer in charge of Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Six.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Gabrielle Joyner



Commentary

It's an honor to lead Navy Region Hawaii/MIDPAC ohana

Rear Adm. John Fuller

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

It is indeed a great honor to be here in Hawaii, and I am very thankful to join and lead the team at Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific.

Last week's change of command ceremony was inspiring and humbling. My wife, Mary, and I were im-

pressed with the turnout and show of support for our military.

I am honored to publicly thank [U.S.] 3rd Fleet Commander Vice Adm. "Pink" Floyd and Navy Installations Commander Vice Adm. Dixon Smith for presiding at the change of command. Mary and I also thank Rear Adm. Rick Williams and Suzy Williams for their very warm welcome and for their superior work here.

Among my first orders of



Rear Adm. John V. Fuller

of an ohana—part of the family.

Our mission is to defend our extended ohana in the United States and do our part to promote the sense of cooperation with our family of allies and friends in the Pacific.

Our region and surface group are committed to delivering a fleet that is ready to fight our nation's wars and win. The critical imperative for meeting that commitment must be taking care of both our service members and their family's needs. We face tough challenges and must embrace innovation in order to achieve our goals.

In my previous assignment, I served as deputy for littoral combat ships, surface warfare division. There I saw firsthand how new ways of thinking and fresh perspectives can help us achieve great things, whether in building the fu-

ture sea services or strengthening alliances and partnerships.

We will do just that next month when the [Navy] Region and MIDPAC team helps the Joint Base host the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II: "70 Years of Peace." And next year all of us will be part of Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet's relationship-building when the Rim of the Pacific exercise returns to Hawaii.

Those are just two examples of the milestones and exciting work ahead. There will be plenty of opportunities for us to work together and achieve common goals.

When I say it's a great honor to be in Hawaii, I want to explain the context.

With a region view, I reflect on the veterans who served before us with a sense of awe. And I think of the Pearl Harbor, Barking Sands and Hickam legacies

and the importance of this region's installations, tenant commands and historic partners and what they represent.

From the waterfront, I also understand the strategic role our MIDPAC surface ships play in providing forward presence as they support U.S. Pacific Fleet's rebalance to Indo-Asia-Pacific.

The Navy Region Hawaii/MIDPAC responsibilities are uppermost in my mind as we enter the Fourth of July weekend to celebrate the freedom and liberties we Americans cherish. We have a mission that is vital to our nation's security.

Here is my mission critical request to each one of you. Please—do your part to be safe this weekend. Help watch over your shipmates, families and friends.

Let's keep the ohana safe and ready!

Diverse Views



How do you plan to deal with Oahu's new plastic bag ban?



Senior Master Sgt. Angela McGill
692nd Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group

"I think it's great that the NEX is supporting Oahu's attempt to reduce waste on the island. As ambassadors to our host island, I think it's the best way to go."

Staff Sgt. Everett Cooper
15th Comptroller Squadron



"I think I will have to leave my own bag in my car."



LS2 Jeremiah Edwards
NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center

"It's kind of a pain. It's not as convenient. I wish they would go back."

Senior Master Sgt. Lisa Deal
15th Medical Operations Squadron



"Biodegradable bags are a must today. Our landfills are too full, and the items that should be recyclable are not disintegrating. Oahu needed to do something."



ET1 Andrew Powers
Intermediate Maintenance Facility

"Plastic bags actually have a smaller environmental impact, long term, than the paper bags. So, I think it's kind of a silly move. However, if we work on banning both paper and plastic and focus on people just bringing their own bags, that would probably resolve both issues."

Senior Master Sgt. Edgard Castillo
HQ PACAF



"Bring your own reusable bag. It's a good idea for a place like Hawaii. It minimizes trash."



MM2 Jacob Brock
USS Louisville (SSN-724)

"I think it's a great idea — save the Earth a little bit at a time. You buy one toothbrush and some toothpaste — you don't really need a plastic bag for something like that. Just put it in your pocket. It's pretty easy."

Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Pakele
154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



"It's a good idea, being on an island with minimal landfills. It would require keeping extra bags in each car just in case."



Staff Sgt. Romeo Filrang
Recruiting Sub-Station, Honolulu

"Whatever decisions they make, I just go with it. It doesn't really bother me either way. It's for the beauty of Hawaii."

Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Malinowski
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard



"That's fine, (but) we wind up reusing a lot of plastic bags anyway. I don't know if it will save that much."

Provided by MC1 Omari Way 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 or karen.spangler@navy.mil

'Hiring Our Heroes' job fair, Hawaii transition summits to be held next week

The Hawaii Service Member Transition Summits, including a "Hiring Our Heroes" job fair, will be held next week at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Schofield Barracks.

Events at both locations will culminate in a Hiring Our Heroes job fair for transitioning service members, veterans and military spouses.

The first summit will take place on July 7 and 8 at Schofield Barracks.

Employer-focused interactive forums and panel discussions will be held at 1 p.m. July 7 at the Schofield Barracks Nehelani Conference and Banquet Center, 1249 Kolekole Ave. A net-

working reception will follow at 3:30 p.m.

Job seeker-focused events will include employment panels and workshops at 9 a.m. and a hiring fair at 1 p.m. on July 8 at the Schofield Barracks' Martinez Physical Fitness Center, building 488.

The second summit will be held July 8 and 9 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Employer-focused interactive forums and panel discussions will be held at 5 p.m. July 8 at Club Pearl, JBPHH. A networking reception will follow at 6:30 p.m. July 8.

Job seeker-focused employment panels and work-

shops will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 9 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center, followed by a hiring fair at 1 p.m. in the fitness center.

"Due to the expected parking congestion on July 9 during the Hiring Our Heroes Transition Summit we kindly ask all Joint Base Fitness Center patrons to use the other gym facilities on Pearl Harbor, Hickam and Makalapa," said Rich Carlson of the Military and Family Support Center.

These consecutive summits — primarily focused on supporting service members and military families preparing to exit the military — are a collaborative

effort to connect members of the military community to meaningful employment opportunities before they transition out of the armed forces.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, along with lead sponsor Microsoft, will join the U.S. Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy; the U.S. Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs; the U.S. Small Business Administration, and hundreds of transitioning service members and spouses for the Hawaii Service Member Transition Summits.

Free registration is available online at www.hiringourheroes.org.

B-17s fly over Hickam in 1941



U.S. Army Air Corps file photo

The first flight of the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress took place in the state of Washington on July 28, 1935. Shown here are Boeing B-17Ds from the 5th Bombardment Group flying over the main gate at Hickam Field during the summer of 1941. Twenty-one B-17C/Ds had been flown out to Hawaii during May to reinforce the defenses of the islands.

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Director, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs
Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Director, Public Affairs
Bill Doughty

Director, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs
Grace Hew Len
Managing Editor
Karen Spangler

Editor
Don Robbins

Assistant Editor
Brandon Bosworth

Sports Editor
Randy Dela Cruz

Sr. Graphic Artist
Antonio Verceluz

Graphic Artist
Blair Martin

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii
Rear Adm. John V. Fuller

Chief of Staff
Capt. Mark Manfredi

Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Capt. Stanley Keeve Jr.

Deputy Commander
Col. Richard Smith

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Operation Warmheart gives \$1,500 to commissary customers

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

The First Sergeant's Council supported Operation Warmheart, June 27, by handing out \$1,500 in commissary gift cards to Hickam Commissary customers.

First sergeants from around the base handed out \$25 and \$50 commissary gift cards to military service members E-6 and below and their family members. The gift card giveaway was a way for Operation Warmheart to give back to the Joint Base community and let people know that Operation Warmheart is a year-round campaign.

"It seems like most people associate Operation Warmheart with the holidays and asking for donations instead of giv-



Tomia Harp receives a commissary gift card from Master Sgt. Marcel Colombo, 324th intelligence Squadron first sergeant, June 27, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

ing back," said Master Sgt. Jacob Davidson, 747th Communications Squadron's first sergeant and Operation Warm-

"We don't want people to think Operation Warmheart is only asking for

donations. We want people to know that Operation Warmheart is helping out the community as well," he said.

Davidson said shoppers looked surprised as the first sergeants stopped them to hand out the gift cards.

"I thought they were doing a fundraiser when I saw the Operation Warmheart banner," said Tech. Sgt. Adrienne Watson from Pacific Air Force Command Air, Space and Logistics Operations. "I was very surprised when they gave me the gift card. It is a blessing for us and it will really help us out."

According to Davidson, the gift card giveaway was open to all E-6 and below shopping at the commissary, regardless of branch of service.

"I was shocked and grateful when he handed

me a gift card. It means less money out of my pocket and that it is very helpful," said Tomia Harp, mother of four and wife of Army Sgt. Nathaniel Harp, 249th Engineer Battalion Schofield Barracks.

Davidson said that Operation Warmheart is a support organization for Airmen during times of need. Operation Warmheart provides no interest loans as well as support to the community during the holidays and year-round. Last year Operation Warmheart gave \$30,000 to families in need and have plans to do so again this year.

"Operation Warmheart is literally here just to help the community," said Davidson. "I want people to think of Operation Warmheart as a throughout the year organization not just the holidays."

USS Chafee Sailors experience Brisbane, Australia culture

USS Chafee (DDG 90) Public Affairs

BRISBANE, Australia— The Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, visited Brisbane for a port visit June 19-24 and prepared for exercise Talisman Sabre 2015.

"It was very exciting to visit our friends in Brisbane," said Cmdr. Shea Thompson, Chafee's commanding officer.

"This port visit, as well as exercise Talisman Sabre, provides our Sailors a chance to strengthen the bonds between the U.S. and Australia. We just completed a long training phase and are ready to show off our hard-earned skills," he said.

Chafee Sailors experienced the rich culture of the area with various tours of local historic locations and regional attractions provided by the ship's morale, welfare and recreation



U.S. Navy photo

The USS Chafee (DDG 90) visited Brisbane, for a port visit and prepared for exercise Talisman Sabre 2015.

(MWR) association.

"MWR Australia offered ATV rides, scuba diving and fishing trips as well as tickets to the Dream World Fun Park," said Ensign Ben Baehren, Chafee's MWR officer. "Sailors had many great options to choose from."

Other than tours, many Sailors spent time with their families and friends who came to visit them in Brisbane.

"It was exciting to see my family," said Lt. Nicholas Hughes, whose wife Jennifer is from the Australian state of Victoria. "Visiting Australia always feels like a homecoming. I've enjoyed exploring Brisbane and the famous Gold Coast."

Chafee is on deployment with the George Washington Strike Group in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility, supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region, and will participate in the biennial military training exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 in Australia, July 4-19.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



U.S. Sen. (Hawaii) Mazie Hirono receives a briefing during a visit of the modernized Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, a national strategic asset.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC John M. Hageman



U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono receives a briefing from Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Lovgren, fuel director and actions officer, Navy Supply Fleet Logistics Center, June 30, during a site visit of Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.



U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono (center) and Rear Adm. John Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (right), visits Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Officers from the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) arrive on-scene and clear the area during an active-shooter exercise held July 1. The exercise, which took place at the Personnel Support Detachment building, tested the JBPHH security department and HPD's capabilities during an active shooter scenario.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz



Musician 3rd Class Christopher Garten dances with children at the Arawa Primary School, June 30, during Pacific Partnership 2015. The hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) is in Papua, New Guinea for its second mission port of PP15.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Mayra A. Conde

(Right) A MH-60R Seahawk helicopter conducts flight training operations June 23 over the island of Molokai.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Amber Porter



USS Jacksonville makes port visit in Australia during deployment

Ensign
Nicholas Lucania

USS Jacksonville
(SSN 699) Public Affairs

STIRLING, Australia (NNS)—The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Jacksonville (SSN 699) arrived in Stirling, Australia, June 25 for a port visit as a part of its western Pacific deployment.

The Jacksonville crew is interacting with the Royal Australian Navy and is immersed in the local culture through community service projects and planned activities.

“I am really looking forward to spending time in Australia,” said Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Kevin Beck. “I have never been south of the equator before. I can’t wait to visit the surrounding cities, catch a game of footy, and see a kangaroo.”

Since departing Sepangar, Malaysia, Jacksonville has been hard at work, rapidly responding to a variety of tasking and continuing the professional development of each Sailor aboard. More than one dozen Jacksonville Sailors have earned their



U.S. Navy photo

The Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Jacksonville (SSN 699) is moored in Stirling, Australia June 25. Jacksonville is in Australia as a part of its deployment.

dolphins since departing Pearl Harbor.

“The crew continued to push hard during the second leg of deployment and Jacksonville experienced nothing short of success,” said Master Chief Electronics Technician Kevin Rollert, the chief of the boat aboard Jacksonville. “We are fortunate to be visiting another outstanding port call. This is a great opportunity for the crew to relax and enjoy the sights.”

Throughout their 2015 western Pacific deployment, Jacksonville’s crew of 144 Sailors will conduct a variety of missions. Jacksonville will participate in several joint exercises focused on enhancing international maritime operations.

Jacksonville was commissioned May 16, 1981 and is homeported in Pearl Harbor. The ship measures more than 360 feet long, displaces 6,900 tons and is one of the most capable submarines in the world. Jacksonville supports a wide range of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare and naval special warfare.

Wahiawa Public Library hosts military working dog demonstration

Story and photo by
MC3 Gabrielle Joyner

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element Detachment Hawaii

WAHIAWA, Hawaii—Service members, families and Oahu residents gathered at the Wahiawa Public Library for a military working dog demonstration June 18, presented by Airmen assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

The demonstration was part of a series of events being held for the library’s summer reading program. This year’s theme focuses on heroes.

“We’re looking at all different kinds of people and groups of people doing heroic things in a range of circumstances,” said Matt Brown, acting branch manager for Wahiawa Public Library. “Last night, we had police officers come in, and next week we’re having a special event where we have a storyteller coming in to talk about traditional Hawaiian heroes. And this evening we’re very lucky to have our working dog team come up from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam,” he said.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Nicholas White and Senior Airman Cody Becker, assigned to JBPHH, kicked off the event by introducing those in attendance to Ggregor, a military working dog (MWD).

During their presentation, they briefed the crowd about the life of a MWD, what MWDs are capable of as well as how they train them and, most of all, safety around MWDs. The Airmen then put on a visual demonstration where they showed the crowd how Ggregor would take down an offender.

“I feel like us coming out and



(Left) U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Cody Becker and Staff Sgt. Nicholas White, both assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, host a demonstration with Ggregor, a military working dog, for community members during a Wahiawa Public Library summer reading event.

(Below) U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Nicholas White, assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, performs a demonstration with Ggregor, a military working dog, for community members during a Wahiawa Public Library summer reading event.

getting involved with the community is very important, especially for our job,” said Becker.

“The working dog program is about security and law enforcement, but it’s also about developing a tie with the community, helping the community understand what we do and what our capabilities are,” Becker said.

Sylvia Cheng, a longtime patron of the Wahiawa Public Library and attendee at the event, said that she found the military working dog presentation to be informative.

“[The MWD presentation] was educational, and it was nice to see the military coming out to the community and share what they go through, as well as the animals,” said Cheng. “I know the kids enjoyed just seeing a working dog, too, and what it takes to train them.”

Brown echoed Cheng’s sentiments and expressed how much military involvement means to those in the community.

“Being here on Oahu in the library system, not only do we, on staff, feel very strongly about our relationship with our military friends and neighbors, but so, too, do our patrons,” said Brown. “Many of them, in fact, come from military families or have a military background. So anytime we have a chance to do something cooperatively or in conjunction with the folks in the military, we look forward to that,” he said.

The summer reading program encourages readers of all ages to participate from May 31 through July 18. The 2015 theme for children is, “Every Hero Has a Story,” and, “Unmask!,” for teens. The theme for adults is, “Escape the Ordinary.”



Brown explained why it so important for the community to utilize the resources and programs, such as the summer reading program, offered at the public library. “We hope that our people are well informed so they can make good decisions and they can voice well thought out ideas, and we think of the library as essential to

that,” said Brown.

“But if people aren’t literate, if they aren’t continuously taking on board new information and considering it, then that’s a less than ideal situation. And I don’t see any place in the community that really brings all of these elements together except for the public library,” he said.