

Pacific Partnership team returns home to Hawaii

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Pacific Partnership 2015 personnel stationed in Hawaii, but recently assigned to the hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), returned home Wednesday as the ship pulled in to Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam for a liberty port call.

The 10th iteration of the U.S. Pacific Fleet's annual humanitarian assistance/disaster relief preparedness mission began in late May and took place in the Southeast Asia and Oceania regions.

Born out of the devastation wrought by the 2004 tsunami that swept through parts of Southeast Asia, Pacific Partnership began as a military-led humanitarian response to one of the world's most catastrophic natural disasters. Building on that success and good will, the hospital ship USNS Mercy returned to the re-



The Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) moors alongside the pier at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on its way back from supporting Pacific Partnership 2015.

gion in 2006 for the inaugural Pacific Partnership mission.

The mission staff expanded to include partner nation militaries and non-governmental organizations working to increase the disaster relief capabilities in the region. Since then, Pacific Partnership has grown in scope and size.

Mercy visited Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Vietnam. Mercy provided healthcare and surgical procedures, community health engagements, engineering projects, subject matter expert exchanges and community relations events in coordination with host nations, NGOs and regional partners that included Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Canada, Timor Leste and Fiji.

(For more information on Pacific Partnership, visit the official Pacific Partnership website at <http://www.cpf.navy.mil/pacific-partnership/2015>.)

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Gabrielle Joyner

Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony honors POW/MIAs

Blair Martin Gradel

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

A special Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony was held Sept. 17, paying homage to the service and sacrifices of those missing in action (MIA) or were prisoners of war (POW).

"To date, over 83,000 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the Gulf Wars, and the ongoing War on Terror," said Navy Region Hawaii historian Jim Neuman who served as ceremony emcee.

"That's 83,000 fathers, sons, brothers and friends. Since tomorrow is the official POW/MIA Recognition Day around the country, we gather here on this day to re-affirm our heartfelt promise that they are 'not forgotten,'" he added.

The national anthem and parading of colors was provided by Pacific Fleet Band and U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) Joint Service Color Guard.

The Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony highlights a different theme of military heritage at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center every month.

This month's theme was held on the eve of National POW/MIA Recognition Day, allowing Americans time to pause to remember those who sacrificed in service to their country.

Retired Army veteran Bob Silva said he always makes a point to attend many POW/MIA events in order to remember friends he lost while serving in a special forces unit during the Vietnam War.

"As a Vietnam vet, I'm really close to this cause. Many of my guys [I served with] are still out there somewhere, and we are still looking for their bodies," he said. "So when I found out they were doing this event, I just knew I had to show up."

During the ceremony, Army Maj. Jonathon Doiron, deputy director for Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), spoke about his command's mission of providing the fullest possible accounting and recovery of lost service members still missing in action as a result to past national conflicts.

"Our nation exists because of, and depends upon, those who choose to serve selflessly," he said. "Our veterans highlight the epitome of selfless service. There are still 83,000 service members missing, and it is our daily mission to



Capt. Stanley Keeve, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and retired Navy Capt. Gerald L. Coffee, a former Vietnam War prisoner of war, exchange greetings.



Army Maj. Jon Doiron, deputy director of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), speaks during a Pearl Harbor Colors ceremony.



Capt. Stanley Keeve, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and retired Navy Capt. Gerald L. Coffee, a former Vietnam War prisoner of war, salute as members of the Joint-Service color guard pass by.



Chief Musician Ryan Ringnalda conducts the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet Band. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

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

conduct the research, field investigations and field recoveries necessary to bring these individuals home and provide their families with answers regarding what happened to their loved ones," he added.

Retired Navy Capt. Gerald Coffee, the keynote speaker for the ceremony, shared his unique perspective as a prisoner of war (POW) during the Vietnam War.

"To have been a POW is a very dubious distinction," he explained.

"It is not one I thought I would have when I re-enlisted as a young officer back in the 1960s. Although it is not ever my inten-

tion to go into the POW experience in detail, I want to give you some idea of what it was that helped me survive, in my case seven years and nine days in North Vietnam."

While flying a combat mission off the USS Kitty Hawk in 1966, Coffee's plane was shot down by North Vietnamese anti-aircraft guns. He eventually was captured and held prisoner for more than seven years in the infamous 'Hanoi Hilton' before being released in 1973.

"We looked at our incarceration merely as another form of combat," he said. "Our combat was against the enemy who held us

there and tried to exploit us for military information and propaganda."

Coffee attributed much of his survival to his unwavering faith—faith in himself, his country and his God.

"The first two little words that I saw scratched on the wall of my cell there were two words with an equal sign between them. That little formula simply said 'God = Strength'. For me, that was really true. In fact, it was the key to my survival," he added.

Musician 3rd Class Clifton Murray of the Pacific Fleet Band said the chance of meeting veterans such as Coffee and hearing their

testimonials has given him greater appreciation of his service to his country.

"His words impress upon me the weight and the seriousness of the organization I've become a part of," the California-native explained after the ceremony.

"I've only been in the Navy seven years, but to meet people like him and those [veterans] who have come before, gives me such a deeper sense of pride in my country and makes me want to step up and do my part as a Sailor," he added.



Navy invites Board of Water Supply to tour Red Hill
See page A-2



CPO pinning ceremony
See page A-3



Mighty 'Mo' all decked out
See page B-1



Reveille ceremony starts POW/MIA Week
See page A-2



Ash scattering ceremony honors Dec. 7 survivor
See page A-6



Volunteers are requested for International Coastal Clean-up Day
Page B-5

Navy invites Board of Water Supply to tour Red Hill

Navy shows commitment to keeping the drinking water safe – no matter what

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Navy invited members of the board of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, their consultants and other local stakeholders to visit the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage facility Sept. 15.

Rear Adm. John Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, welcomed the visitors for a tour and discussion to show how the Navy is keeping the drinking water safe while preserving energy security.

“Our non-negotiable priority is keeping the drinking water safe,” said Fuller. “Our Navy is fully committed to environmental stewardship and safe drinking water,” he added.

“The Red Hill fuel facility is a national strategic asset that provides the fuel necessary to defend our nation, safeguard our national interests, and support humanitarian missions overseas,” Fuller said.

Over the summer, Fuller and other Navy leaders have provided familiarization visits to dozens of elected officials, regulators and other stakeholders. Among the senior elected officials who toured the facility and received briefings since July were Sen. Mazie Hirono, Sen. Brian Schatz, Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, Congressman Mark Takai and Hawaii Gov. David Ige.

The Navy tests groundwater at several locations, conducts routine drinking supply compliance sampling, and submits test results to regulatory agencies for review and evaluation. The Navy continues to modernize, upgrade and improve the facility.



(Top) Rear Adm. John Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific, left of right, briefs members of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, Moanalua Valley Community Association and Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 during a visit to one of the fuel tanks at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility near Pearl Harbor.

(Right, far right) Capt. Ken Epps, commanding officer of NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor, left, briefs on a scaffold inside an empty tank

U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Laurie Dexter



Reveille ceremony starts POW/MIA Week



(Left) Airmen from the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Air Force Sergeant's Association present arms Sept. 14 during a POW/MIA reveille ceremony at JBPHH. The ceremony kicks off this year's POW/MIA Week, which honors the 1,627 missing or unaccounted for military service members (as of April 2015) in all branches of service.

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

(Below) Airmen From Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Honor Guard raise the POW/MIA flag during a POW/MIA reveille ceremony.

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



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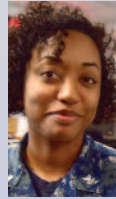
It's Suicide Prevention Month: For you, what is the one thing that makes life most worth living?



Tech. Sgt. Travis Hutts
U.S. Pacific Command

"Family. They make my foundation and mold me into who I am. Family also makes me a better person by guiding me. Family makes life worth living."

MR2 Ana Vazquez
Transient Personnel Unit



"I would say the one thing that makes life worth living is the continuous pursuit of education. As humans, most of us have the spark of curiosity, the urge to learn as much as we can. Learning more and furthering one's knowledge is what I find makes life most worth living."



Capt. Ashleigh Nguyen
15th Wing

"Service and opportunity. Being an American and taking advantage of the opportunities life gives us and the ability to serve others is something I don't want to take for granted. We are more fortunate than most realize."

RP2 Priscilla Clark
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Chapel



"The thing that makes life most worth living is the personal time I have, and everything that falls into it. Education, my family and exercise are just a few examples of what I look forward to. Having the freedom to do what I want is what I think makes life most worth living."



Tech. Sgt. Bernice Martinez
613th Air and Space Operations Center

"My family. I always strive to better myself and be the person my kids look up to. As a single parent, I'm the immediate role model and I spend my days aiming to make their happiness just a bit brighter."

MA1 (Aviation Warfare) Juan Nieves
Joint Base Security



"I would say the one thing that makes life worth living is going home to see my four-year-old daughter. She brightens my day and I will always appreciate having her in my life. At the end of a long day, regardless of how rough it may have been, knowing I am going home to her makes my day better."



Staff Sgt. David Pinzon
15th Medical Support Squadron

"Family and loved ones. You may not always get along or talk to them every day, but whatever life throws at you, they will always be there to pick you up off the floor. They will always be there to hold you up."

Corina Underwood
Air Force retiree family member



"Family is the most important and the friends who are closest to me, because I'll always have their support and they'll always have mine."



Senior Airman Stanley Walker
735th Air Mobility Squadron

"Family and friends. Regardless of what you go through, they will always be there for you."

Provided by David D. Underwood Jr. and Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz

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Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

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

Mid-September highlighted with awards, advancement

Rear Adm. John Fuller

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific



Rear Adm. John V. Fuller

Several highlights marked the past five days as an "award winning" week.

Earlier this week I presided at awards ceremonies for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and aboard USS Chosin (CG 65). At region and MIDPAC, we recognized a diverse military and civilian team. Aboard Chosin, we awarded some stellar Sailors.

The best part of my job is recognizing our people for the great work they do—thanking them for making a positive difference as they support the fleet and take care of our families.

I know there will be many more awards ceremonies in the months ahead—many more opportunities for me to tangibly thank the women and men for the superior

work they do every day.

Also this week, at a separate small ceremony outside my office, I thanked several Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam security teammates for doing an outstanding job protecting us—they did work behind the scenes things that kept you and me safe without everyone even knowing about it.

Our Air Force/Navy team is professional, skilled and ready. I appreciate all they do to keep our installations

and, more importantly, our people safe.

On Wednesday I had the honor and privilege of speaking to brand new chief petty officers and their families. I reminded them how important they are to the success of our Navy. Chiefs are mentors and teachers – not just for junior enlisted Sailors, but also with junior officers.

Chiefs are known as the backbone of our Navy. They are the go-to specialists who lead by example, support the chain of command, and instill humility.

When the late Adm. Charles Larson, two-term superintendent of the United States Naval Academy, wanted to improve the quality of midshipmen, he assigned a chief to each company at the academy.

Here is what Larson said he expected from naval leaders:

"Excellence without arrogance ... That means that I want you to be re-

ally, really good at what you do, work hard, be confident, have a good work ethic, and have a sense of humility, [realize] that you're not perfect, and you're never going to achieve great results without the help of your subordinates."

My advice to our new chiefs was simple: Lead with your heart and your head. Never stop learning and listening. Always treat others the way you wish to be treated. Always do those things to earn the respect we expect you will command.

Our new chiefs achieved their new anchor collar devices through hard work and a commitment to excellence—and because of steadfast support from their families. Well done! Congratulations to our new chief petty officers and to all their families, friends and shipmates.

Now, let's all celebrate another award-winning week in Hawaii!

Rear Adm. Fuller honors Chosin Sailors



U.S. Navy photo by FC2(SW) Andrew Albin

Rear Adm. John V. Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, presents awards to Sailors aboard USS Chosin (CG 65) on Sept. 14.

Navy opens West Coast base



Official U.S. Navy photo

Established on Sept. 16, 1854, Mare Island Naval Shipyard (MINSY) in California was the first permanent United States Navy base on the West Coast, with Cmdr. David G. Farragut serving as base commander. The USS St. Mary's, above, was one of the first ships to use the MINSY dry dock. The sectional dry dock was built in New York and shipped to Mare Island in sections around Cape Horn.

HO'okele

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USS Houston visits Sasebo to strengthen alliance

Lt. Luis Luy

USS Houston (SSN 713) Public Affairs

SASEBO, Japan (NNS) — The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Houston (SSN 713), homeported at Pearl Harbor, arrived in Sasebo, Japan, for a visit as part of its deployment to the western Pacific, Sept. 10.

The visit strengthens the already positive alliance between the U.S. and Japan through the crew's interaction with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force.

It also demonstrates the U.S. Navy's commitment to regional stability and maritime security in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

"Being in Sasebo is a phenomenal opportunity to further our relations with the Japanese navy while expanding our positive presence in the region. The objective of this visit is not only to enhance our operational readiness but to experience and learn from the Japanese culture," said Cmdr. Scott McGinnis, USS Houston's commanding officer.

Houston is a fast attack submarine equipped with four torpedo tubes, two countermeasure tubes, and the ability to deploy and operate around the globe. "Prior to arriving in Sasebo,



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Steven Khor

The Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Houston (SSN 713) departs from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for routine operations.

Houston enhanced its tactical readiness by completing additional navigation and submarine operations training in addition to participating in the CARAT Singapore exercise in July," said McGinnis.

"Houston has been hard at work and is now ready to replenish her resources while also enjoying the exceptional cultural and entertainment opportunities this visit offers," he said.

"Since departing Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, mighty warship Houston and her crew have been deployed to the [U.S.] 7th Fleet AOR [area of responsibility] demonstrating both professionalism and perseverance," said Senior Chief Sonar Technician Paul McCrory, the chief of the boat aboard Houston.

"My crew is looking forward to much deserved rest and an excellent port visit in Sasebo. We are

also excited and grateful for the hospitality and the opportunity to experience Japanese culture and all Sasebo has to offer," McCrory said.

Many crew members are excited to experience the rich culture of Japan.

"I am looking forward to visiting Nagasaki and experiencing as much Japanese culture as possible," said Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Aaron Breemer.

In commemoration of the heavy weight cruiser Houston (CA 30), most commonly known as the Ghost of the Java Coast, which was lost in the Battle of the Java Sea, Houston (SSN 713) was commissioned Sept. 25, 1982 and has starred in deployments, exercises and the submarine movie, "The Hunt for Red October." Houston is the 132nd nuclear-powered submarine and the 20th of the Los Angeles class.

25th ASOS hosts 2nd annual Cascade Challenge

Story and photo by Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz

15th Wing Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii—Airmen and Soldiers from across the globe recently converged on the island of Oahu to participate in the second-annual Cascade Challenge, held Sept. 9-11 at Schofield Barracks.

The Cascade Challenge pitted nine teams of two service members in a competition to test their combat skills, knowledge and abilities specific to the Tactical Air Control Party mission. The teams consisted of Airmen and Soldiers from the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS) (Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii); 3rd ASOS (JB Elmendorf-Richardson, AK); 5th ASOS (JB Lewis-McChord), U.S. Air Force 1st Weather Squadron and U.S. Army 1st Special Forces Group (JB Lewis-McChord).

The challenge required the participants to complete and pass a total of 22 mental and physical challenges over a three-day period.

"This 72-hour event challenges the best of the best from the Air Force



United States Army Staff Sgt. David Personius discharges his rifle during the live-fire stress-shoot portion of the second-annual Cascade Challenge, held at Schofield Barracks Sept. 9. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

and Army," said Lt. Col. Russell J. Hall, 25th ASOS commander. "Competition breeds excellence, and this competition is a perfect example of how capable our controllers truly are."

A few of the challenges the controllers had to overcome included equipment and ruck layouts, special forces physical training tests, the Marine Corps combat fitness test,

an obstacle course and a M9 and M4 weapons assembly challenge.

According to Hall, one of the more difficult challenges was the live-fire stress shoot, which provided the participants a limited amount of time to "zero-in" the sights on their weapons. The controllers then had to hit a series of static and moving targets without hitting "friendly" or

"non-combative" targets.

Some of the mental challenges the controllers had to overcome included: tests on joint tactical air strike request procedures, a medical evacuation practical exercise, a close-air support practical exercise, a radio-skills exercise, map and compass reading exercise, threat visual recognition test, and emergency antennae con-

struction. After the series of mental and physical challenges, one team stood above the rest. The team included members from the 25th ASOS—1st Lt. Dylan Hallums and Tech. Sgt. Jarred Fischer. This marks the second consecutive Cascade Challenge victory for Fischer, as he won the inaugural challenge last year at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, located in the state of

Washington.

"The major difference between last year's challenge, and this year was maintaining the physical capacity to complete any task that came up," said Fischer. "Hawaii's heat, humidity and terrain drained all of your energy and made it harder to complete those tasks."

Fischer said it is always rewarding to finish a field exercise and know he has the knowledge and technical expertise to perform and excel in combat situations. In addition, he said meeting new controllers within his field and going through the same exercises together helps build bonds which will help them if they are working together in the future.

The two-time Cascade Challenge champion said although he might be working with some of the participants in the future, he will still remain competitive and strive for a perfect record in future Cascade Challenges.

"If I am participating in future challenges, I most definitely plan to perform at my best," said Fischer. "More than likely, I will be helping to train the team that will win the Cascade Challenge."



Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



Retired Army Col. Arthur Tulak, Military Order of Foreign Wars, talks with a guest Thursday about the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Tulak provided information at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center after the Pearl Harbor Colors presentation.

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

(Below) Shyla Oliver, U.S. Army spouse, interprets for deaf family members at the scattering-of-ashes service for Pearl Harbor Survivor Daryl Finch. Jim Taylor, left, Pearl Harbor Survivor liaison, was the speaker for the ceremony. (Story and additional photos on page A-6.)

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter



Capt. Adolfo H. Ibarra, commanding officer, USS Port Royal (CG 73), was a featured speaker at a naturalization ceremony held aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial on Sept. 17. (See next week's Ho'okele for complete coverage.)

U.S. Navy photo by Brandon B. Bosworth



Participants of the second-annual Cascade Challenge receive a safety briefing before the live-fire stress shoot, held at Schofield Barracks, Sept. 9. The Cascade Challenge lasted three days and pitted nine two-man teams in a competition to test their combat skills, knowledge, and abilities specific to the Tactical Air Control Party mission.

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



Members of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Honors and Ceremonial Guard present the U.S. Ensign at a ceremony marking the 14th anniversary of 9/11 held at Tamarind Park, Bishop Square, Honolulu, Sept. 11. The ceremony honored those who were lost on that fateful day in 2001 and also thanked Hawaii's first responders.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Meranda Keller

Members from both Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and 647th Civil Engineering Squadron clear debris from a fallen tree at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). Southern fringes of tropical storm Jimena brought heavy rainfall throughout the state, adding more moisture to the already saturated ground and causing trees to topple over.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Meranda Keller



Ash scattering ceremony honors Dec. 7 survivor

Story and photos by
MC2 Laurie Dexter

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element
Detachment Hawaii

Ashes of the late Pearl Harbor survivor Navy Chief Petty Officer Daryl L. Finch were scattered into the waters at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during a ceremony Sept. 9.

Finch was born Sept. 9, 1920 in Fairbanks, Iowa, making the day of the ceremony his 95th birthday.

He joined the U.S. Navy in 1938 and upon completion at Recruit Training Command, he received orders to the battleship USS Oklahoma (BB 37) in Pearl Harbor.

After spending time as a mess cook aboard the Oklahoma, he was sent to metal smith school and later was reassigned to the naval aviation supply center on Ford Island.

"He was very fortunate to have been at the supply center on Dec. 7," said Jim Tay-



lor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison. "The USS Oklahoma had over 400 casualties that day."

During the morning of the 1941 Japanese attacks, Finch was in the medical clinic on Ford Island helping injured personnel.

According to Finch's daughter, Sandie Holstein, he didn't talk about the attack on Pearl Harbor. "We, the daughters, knew almost nothing about that time," said Holstein. "As far as his military service, he loved flying and he loved the Navy."

According to Holstein, her father was a sportsman. He loved hunting, fishing and playing golf.

Geri Erickson, Finch's daughter, said she was grateful for the ceremony.

"It's just amazing to me," said Erickson. "I'm so happy they were able to take care of and do what my dad wanted. So I just thank God, and I thank the Navy for being able to do this for us."

(Additional photo on page A-5.)

New program aims to drive down number of abandoned vehicles

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Morale, Welfare and Recreation

In an effort to curb the number of abandoned vehicles left on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) has developed a new vehicle removal program.

"JBPHH has seen a sharp rise in the number of on-base abandoned vehicles over the past three years," said MWR director, Mark Richards.

"Although there was a process to remove abandoned vehicles, there was no program for a POV (privately owned vehicle) owner to properly dispose of a vehicle in a relatively short period of time."

MWR's Auto Skills Center (ASC) at Moanalua is handling the vehi-



Photos courtesy of MWR Marketing

Without the Vehicle Removal Program, cars such as this could sit in lots on base for weeks or even months. (Inset) Vehicles bearing this sticker have been cited by security and are subject to tow.

cle removal program. Doug Ikeda, ASC manager described the process.

"Basically the customer calls the Moanalua Auto Skills Center and lets us know they want to get rid of their vehicle," he said. "They need to come in and fill out a request form, and then ASC takes it over to security so they can verify the registered owner of the vehicle."

If all the paperwork matches up, then we will contact the owner and set up a day for pickup. When we pick up the vehicle is when the customer signs the title over."

The owner will need to bring in their vehicle ownership papers, the latest vehicle registration and their military ID. A non-refundable \$10 processing fee will be required at the time the request form is turned in. Ikeda adds that if cars

are found to be particularly derelict and can't be towed by normal ASC means, then additional fees may be added.

The program's area of consideration is Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Off-base locations that fall under JBPHH will be handled on a case-by-case basis and may include additional fees.

Ikeda said taking care of abandoned vehicles is a long process. He hopes this new program not only gives a military member a more convenient option to dispose of their vehicle, but will also lessen the load of security answering calls for cars left unattended on the base for months.

For more information on the vehicle removal program, call the Moanalua Auto Skills Center at 471-9072.

'1 Small ACT' can help

Navy Personnel Command

The "1 Small Act" message encourages simple yet meaningful interactions between peers, leaders and family members to support one another, promote early use of resources and prevent suicide.

"1 Small ACT" can make a difference and save a life. It's about being there for every Sailor, every day.

Building resilience and preventing suicide requires all members of the Navy community to actively communicate with



each other. It can start with "1 Small ACT" to build trust and connect with peers, making sure they know they are never alone.

If you notice anything

out of the norm from your shipmate, one conversation—"1 Small ACT"—can open the door for support by breaking the silence and facilitating early intervention.

Suicide Prevention Month events scheduled

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

A series of events have been scheduled in September to observe Suicide Prevention Month.

- An outdoor resiliency-building fun event for Sailors and Airmen will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. today at Earhart Field. The event will include a lifesaver relay, flag football, tug of war, ability course and team drills. The event is designed to build camaraderie through activities that promote humor, trust, confidence and problem solving.

- A friends and fun spaghetti lunch and billiards, part of Free Food Fridays, will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the Beeman Liberty Center. The event is open to all single Sailors and Airmen.

- An express yourself karaoke event and Hawaiian dinner, part of Free Food Fridays, will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Beeman Liberty Center. The event is open to all single Sailors and Airmen.

- A Joint Base Morale, Welfare and

Recreation 5K buddy run and resiliency fair will begin at 8 a.m. Sept. 26 at Hickam Fitness Center. The event is open to all Department of Defense personnel, families and retirees. Pets are allowed. Awards will be provided to the first place winner in men's, women's, youth boys, youth girls, and men's and women's stroller categories. Community support resources will be on site to provide information about services available.

For more information, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com or call 448-2214.

- An ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) workshop will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel. Participants can learn suicide first aid skills to help pull someone out of the "river of suicide." The workshop is designed to offer skills to better care for those with thoughts of suicide. It is open to all adult military, civilian and family members. Pre-registration is required.

For more information, email rebecca.miranda@navy.mil.

Events observe POW/MIA

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

POW/MIA Memorial Week commemorations at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

- A name reading will be held today from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Missing Man Formation.

- A closing ceremony will begin at 7 a.m. today at Aterbury Circle.

This is a time of remembrance for those who were held prisoner and those who have yet to come home. Members of the JBPHH community are welcome to par-



ticipate, including as volunteers.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Mary Witherow at 448-1428, Master Sgt. Amy Mendonca at 449-8775 or Tech Sgt. Rudy Mendez at 448-1231.

- A Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency remembrance ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. today at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). For more information, call 488-1935.

Hispanic Heritage events 'energize' October

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Hispanic Heritage Month will be observed from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. This month's theme is "Hispanic Americans: Energizing our Nation's Diversity." A Hispanic Heritage Month event will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Oct. 1 at the Hickam Chapel Center multipurpose room, Joint

Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The event will include keynote speakers Cmdr. Dennis Mojica and Master Chief Adeline Lopes. Live entertainment featuring Latin music and historical information will be provided.

In addition, a special Hispanic Heritage Month luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Oct. 7 at Silver Dolphin

Bistro. A free Zumba class will also be held Oct. 9 from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. at the Missing Man Formation Memorial, JBPHH.

For more information, on the Oct. 1 event at the Hickam Chapel Center., contact Chief Fruji 'Ken' Mills at 473-4087 or email at fruji.mills@navy.mil or Anna General at 473-0405 or by email at annamarie.general@navy.mil.

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STORY IDEAS?

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

Phone: (808) 473-2890 or 473-2895

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