

PPV project to begin April 1



House of tribute

Congressional committee thanks Navy, Marine Corps team. See story on page A-5.



Fore!

Disc golf offers a high-flying alternative. See story on page B-1.

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

The Navy in Hawai'i is on track to start the first phase of its family housing privatization beginning April 1.

At town hall meetings held Feb. 10-11 at Sharkey Theater, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, housing residents learned more about what's in store under the public-private venture and the Navy's partnership with Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC (HMC, LLC).

Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing for Navy Region Hawai'i, expressed his enthusiasm about PPV for the Navy in Hawai'i. "I'm really excited about this program. This is the best thing for the Navy. These are fabulous homes," said Ho.

Ho said that since 1994, the Navy has spent \$426 million in military construction (MILCON) funds to replace and renovate the existing housing inventory. He explained that at

the current rate of military construction, it would be at least another 15-20 years before the Navy could replace its current inventory of older homes.

The departure from the traditional MILCON way of doing business to PPV allows the Navy to replace its inadequate housing inventory at a much faster pace and for much less money than would be required under MILCON. Navy officials see PPV as a "win-win" situation for everyone – greatly enhancing the quality of life for Sailors and their families, replacing the Navy's deteriorating homes at a much faster rate and pumping millions of dollars into the local economy.

"We want to give you more space and green areas. These designs are fabulous," Ho commented, referring to HMC's home designs and community plans for the first phase of PPV.

"The Navy will continue to stay involved," Ho assured those in attendance. "It will be a seamless transition for exist-



Artist rendering provided by Hawai'i Military Communities LLC

As part of the public-private venture, Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC, plans to create new looks for military housing communities. These looks are designed to make housing areas feel more like civilian communities and eliminate "cookie-cutter" housing.

ing housing residents," he told them. "All families affected by the moves will be offered another government home," Ho said. The Navy will pay moving expenses for families that must be relocated.

The Navy Aloha Center is working with families that must be relocated on a case by case basis and with as little impact on the families as possible.

Angelo Pimpas of Hawai'i Military Communities, co-president of Forest City Residential Management, Inc. – the property management company in the HMC partnership – emphasized the role of his company through the PPV process.

"We're going to be here for you through thick and thin, good times and bad times – that's what we're all about," he said.

"Our mission is simple – to provide high quality homes for military families," he continued. "We just don't build them and turn them over to someone else. We're in it for the long haul," said Pimpas.

Pimpas told the audience, "We're committed to the Navy

▼ See PPV, A-6

Facts about BAH

When will service members begin to pay Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to the management company?

BAH will begin after the termination of government quarters on April 1. Prior to that time, service members will be asked to complete allotment forms to pay rent to the management company. Allotment forms must be completed and returned to Forest City Management no later than March 16.

If a service member's BAH is increased due to promotions, increase in family size, etc., is it necessary to complete and submit another allotment?

Yes, it is the service members' responsibility to inform the management company of an increase in BAH and to complete and submit a new allotment whenever their BAH increases.

If there are two service members in a household, is the BAH of one or both service members taken for housing?

The higher BAH would be taken to pay rent to the management company.

Which housing areas will have to make an allotment and pay BAH beginning April 1?

Only residents in the five areas affected by the first phase of housing PPV – Halsey Terrace, Hokulani, McGrew Point, Moanalua Terrace and Radford Terrace will make an allotment and begin to pay BAH to Forest City Management beginning April 1.

What expenses will BAH cover?

BAH will cover your rent and basic utilities – electricity, water, sewage and trash collection. Residents are responsible for telephone and television cable service. As long as utilities are used wisely, there will be no additional out-of-pocket costs for service members. At a future time, service members who exceed the average costs of utilities will have to pay some utility costs.

Taking on the Great Aloha Run of 2004



U.S. Navy Photo

Sailors and Marines from commands across Oahu participated alongside thousands of civilians in the 2004 Great Aloha Run. The run was held Monday and is a tradition on Oahu. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the 8.15-mile race. Lt. j.g. Charles K. Kelly of USS Tucson (SSN 770) was the top male finisher for the Navy. He completed the course in 44 minutes, 30 seconds. Lt. j.g. Patricia Hart of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific was the top female runner in the Navy. She came in at one hour, one minute and nine seconds.

2004 NMCRS fund drive underway

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

The centennial Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) fund drive is underway. Keypersons from commands across the island are canvassing Sailors and Marines to achieve the goal of 100 percent contact. The drive is scheduled to run through April 2.

Coordinators of the fund drive stressed to keypersons at a meeting on Tuesday at Sharkey Theater the idea that contact is more important than contribution. The focus is on education of what NMCRS offers Sailors, Marines and their families.

"It's a whole lot beyond the interest-free loans Navy Marine Corps relief offers," said Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, commander Navy Region Hawai'i and commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. "They loan out furniture, operate

thrift stores and offer a variety of other services."

Last year, commands in Hawai'i raised over \$508 thousand and NMCRS disbursed over \$1.1 million in loans, grants and other forms of assistance to Sailors, Marines and families in Hawai'i. Among the forms of assistance are food lockers for families in need of support, layettes for newborns and visiting nurse services for newborns and other eligible family members.

At the meeting, Paul Belanger, director for NMCRS in Pearl Harbor, said education is crucial for keypersons. Individual Sailors who feel NMCRS cannot help them need to be shown how much NMCRS can do for them.

"Of the 1,655 clients we had last year, only 56 were denied," Belanger said. "That's only four percent. It only takes one person in our office to say yes to a Sailor. It takes two to

say no."

This year, keypersons will canvass commands across Hawai'i to make contact with military members. The Navy Exchange (NEX) is also coming forward with its support. Frank Ilderton, operations manager for NEX Pearl Harbor, was at the meeting to explain the new NMCRS fund drive support NEX is providing.

This year, NEX is offering tickets for \$5 to all authorized patrons. These tickets can be used on March 22 and 23. They are worth 10 percent off merchandise at all NEX stores, including the AutoPort, pet shop and main exchange. At the furniture store, patrons can receive 15 percent off furniture purchases. The twist, according to Ilderton, is that commands that are participating in the NMCRS drive can sell them directly to command members and other NEX patrons directly through

keypersons and keep 100 percent of the money. In the past, NEX and the commands split the proceeds 50-50.

Over the last century, the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society has assisted over four million clients and disbursed over \$1 billion in interest-free loans.

McCullough, Belanger and other members of the NMCRS team said they expect the society to be there to take care of Sailors, Marines and their families for the next hundred years and beyond.

The local web site for NMCRS is www.pixi.com/~nmcrshi. The main site for NMCRS worldwide is www.nmcrs.org. Office hours for NMCRS on Pearl Harbor are Monday Through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The number here is 423-1314. After hours, Sailors, Marines or their family members can contact the American Red Cross emergency line toll-free at 1-877-272-7337.

Reservist making the grade

Enlisted corpsman commissioned into Nurse Corps

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Kerry Lineham raised his right hand and swore to defend the Constitution of the United States in a commissioning ceremony aboard the Battleship Missouri on Feb. 13. Lineham, a New Zealand native, is now Ensign Kerry Lineham in the Nurse Corps. Lineham earned his master's degree in nursing from Hawaii Pacific University while serving as a hospital corpsman in the Naval Reserves.

After the commissioning, Lineham said he has a new sense of self-respect.

"This is a very proud day for me," Lineham acknowledged. "I came into the Navy Reserves, enlisted with the idea of working on my master's in nursing and this is the fruition of four long years of working full time and schooling full time."

Lineham credited the Navy for the opportunity to improve himself.

"This (the opportunity to be commissioned) is a great motivating tool for people to try and better themselves, not just with the military but crossing over into the civilian sector as well," said Lineham. "If you use them, the Navy will give you the tools to better yourself. I'm thankful for that."

Capt. Cheryl Janus, officer-in-charge of Naval Reserves Naval Medical Center San Diego Detachment D at Pearl Harbor, said



Photo by JO3 Devin Wright
HM2 Kerry Linham raises his right hand aboard USS Missouri as he is commissioned as a Nurse Corps officer on Feb. 13 in order to augment the shortage of nurses in the Navy.

Lineham's outlook is what sets him apart.

"He is consistently seeking jobs with greater responsibility," said Janus. "His attitude has remained positive even when those around him were less than positive. He always found a way to get the job done and just has a wonderful way about him that is good for morale," Janus said.

Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Borja, officer recruiter for the Naval Reserves, said the Navy is looking for both enlisted and civilian personnel to become Nurse Corps officers.

"If people knowledgeable in the nursing field are looking for a different level of leadership, we can offer that to them," said

Borja. "We need people who have knowledge of the blue shirt community to bring that knowledge to the officers' community and that door, of course, opens the other way for the civilian community as well."

The nursing field, both military and civilian, is suffering a significant shortage.

In an effort to augment the Navy's nursing field, the Navy has doubled the signing bonus for nurses entering active duty from \$5,000 to \$ 10,000 as of Jan. 27.

The bonus comes with a minimum four-year active duty price tag. Enlisted Sailors applying to become nurses are not eligible for the bonus.

Commentary

Chapel Pennant

Making a Difference

Chaplain (Cmdr.) Michael C. Wolfram
CHC, USNR

The story is told of a man who was walking along a deserted beach at low tide. In the distance, he noticed someone approaching him. He curiously watched the person bend down, pick something up, throw it into the sea.

This routine was repeated numerous times as the two walked toward each other. When they finally met, the man asked the stranger what he was doing.

"I'm throwing these starfish into the sea," he said. "You see, if I don't they will die in the sand."

"But, don't you see how many there are?" the man protested. "And these are just the ones on this beach. There are hundreds of beaches and thousands and thousands lying on each beach. You can't possibly make a difference."

Without saying a word, the stranger bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea. Looking the man in the eye, he replied, "Made a difference to that one."

How often have we felt that we cannot make a difference when, in fact, we can. The Navy is a large organization and it is constantly on

the move.

Friends we have today may be only memories tomorrow. It is easy to think that one person cannot matter. But, you do! And you can make a difference!

A friend of mine has a saying, "To have a friend you must first be a friend." In other words, making a difference begins with you.

Safety on the ship begins with you practicing safety. Discipline on the ship begins with you being a disciplined person. Work gets done on the ship when you are doing your job.

Caring on the ship begins with you being a caring person. No one person can accomplish all that needs to be done, but together we are the Navy.

The golden rule reminds us to, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This is a great motto to live by in order to make a difference in the lives of others.

We all know what it is like to feel alone. We have all experienced times of frustration when we needed help. We know the loneliness of separation and loss.

At times, we have all felt like starfish on the beach at low tide.

When you find a shipmate who needs some assistance, be there for them. You can make a difference!

Hawaii Navy News

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Hawaii Navy News

Cosmetic Surgery

Services now available to Sailors, families

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

The plastic surgery department at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) offers both reconstructive and cosmetic surgeries to active duty, spouses, family members and retirees.

"We do the whole spectrum of plastic surgery procedures here at Tripler," said Army Maj. (Dr.) Jeff T. Healy, chief of plastic surgery at TAMC.

TAMC conducts reconstructive surgeries that include breast reconstruction, cleft palates and traumatic injuries during wartime, which take precedence because of their necessity.

However, when there is available operation room time, doctors perform cosmetic surgeries as an added benefit to military personnel.

Those performed at Tripler include face-lifts, breast augmentation and reduction, liposuction, Botox and abdominalplasty.

The process to sign up for one of these cosmetic surgeries is extensive and wait times can be as short as six months or may never happen for some military members.

"Before we see somebody in the clinic, we have to get a consult from the primary care doctor," said Healy. "We review those consults and the vast majority of them are cosmetic in nature and they are put on a time and space available basis."

If there is time and space available, a patient will receive a phone call asking him or her to meet with a doctor from Tripler.

"We basically talk to them about the procedure, evaluate them to see if

they're a good candidate, discuss the details of the operation, the risks that are involved and make sure they understand that," said Healy.

"There are risks that are associated with any type of surgery," said Healy. "The patient needs to be well informed. Our overall goal is ... to provide top-line medical care to any of our patients."

The most common procedure is breast reduction. The process is categorized as neither reconstructive nor cosmetic because of the back and shoulder pains associated with it.

"Right now we are only offering that (breast reduction) to active duty patients because there is such a large number of them that we don't have time to offer that service to dependents and family members," said Healy.

Abdominalplasty and breast augmentation are the most common cosmetic surgeries that Tripler performs.

Prospective patients also should be aware that fees may apply to certain procedures for certain persons.

"There are fees that are set by the Department of Defense," said Healy.

The fees are assigned to spouses and family members and are less than what someone would pay outside the military. Active duty patients do not pay the fee for cosmetic surgeries.

While the chances of obtaining a cosmetic surgery are slim, Dr. Healy advises to put in the consult, but with the understanding that the chances of getting called in and having surgery done here at Tripler are pretty low.

A patient who received cosmetic surgery from Tripler said the process was long, but the doctor handled every as-



Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Army Maj. (Dr.) Jeff T. Healy and his surgical assistant prepare a patient for surgery at Tripler Army Medical Center. The plastic surgery department at Tripler offers both reconstructive and cosmetic surgeries to active duty, spouses, family members and retirees.

pect with care and professionalism. The patient describes the experience as worth the time and effort, despite the fact that there are no guarantees that Tripler will conduct the surgery.

"It's going to take awhile, but it's worth the wait," said the surgical patient.

Tripler also offers laser eye surgery to the military as an elective surgery. Tripler normally offers the program to active duty personnel; however, at this time, Tripler is only offering laser eye surgery to Army personnel due to budget constraints.

The first step for receiving eye sur-

gery is filling out forms that will help to identify if a patient meets the criteria for the surgery.

The patient must then attend a briefing in which a staff member will discuss options, risks and benefits of the surgery. The meeting is mandatory and will help to ensure that all patients qualify for the surgery.

Next, patients receive a lengthy and in-depth evaluation appointment to determine if the patient can benefit from laser refractive surgery.

Patients finally schedule an appointment for the procedure and have several follow-up appointments to

record progress.

If a patient is serious about the procedure and does not want to wait, Dr. Healy recommends that they try outside offices. He suggest patients should check the credentials of any doctor to ensure they are getting the proper treatment.

While both programs at TAMC are difficult to get, the first step toward any procedure conducted within the military would be a consultation with a primary care physician. Following the appropriate course of action might help the chances of benefiting from what the military can offer.

Aloha: Tripler Army Medical Center opens second Fisher House

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

Tripler Army Medical Center celebrated the official opening of its second Fisher House Thursday.

This Fisher House, dedicated to the memory of Tony and Anne Fisher who died in a tragic airplane crash last April, provides comfort for service members, their families, veterans, and many Pacific Island families while their loved ones receive healthcare at the TAMC.

"The program as a whole is to improve the quality of life to all military men and women and their families," said Kenneth Fisher, chairman, Board of Trustees Fisher House Foundation. "It is a place where military families aid each other."

Since the establishment of the Fisher Houses in 1990, the foundation has aided 60,000 families and saved them over \$70,000,000 in expenses.

The second Fisher House opened unofficially on Nov. 17 2003. Since the opening service members and their families have saved a significant amount of out of pocket expenses.

"Since the opening, we've had 24 families stay at this particular Fisher House and have saved an estimated \$28,000 in temporary lodging, and transportation costs," said Dan Hersrud, Program Manager Army Fisher House.

Although the money saved by staying at the Fisher House is greatly appreciated, the true value is the positive impact the houses have had on military family members.

"You can't down play the savings in terms of cost but it's not really something you can quantify in terms of material," said Fisher. "The true value is in the healing process that you find at a Fisher House."

The impact Fisher Houses service members both active and retired is immeasurable.

"Having served in World War II, I know what



U.S. Navy Photo

A member of a local Boy Scout troop and an Army Soldier release two doves at the opening of the second Fisher House at Tripler Army Medical Center Thursday. The doves were released in memory of Tony and Anne Fisher who were killed in an airplane crash last April.

it means to be wounded, away from home and extremely lonely," said Hawai'i Senator and Medal of Honor recipient Daniel Inouye. "When I heard about the Fisher House foundation, I thought to myself this is exactly what service men and women need."

The new Fisher House contains 11 family suites. Each is equipped with internet access, a sitting room and a dining area.

Tripler's second Fisher House is the 32nd home built by the foundation. There are currently two homes in Germany, 17 homes on military installations and six Veterans Affairs Medical Center homes worldwide.

"The Fisher family is a very prolific," said Inouye. "Thankfully they are also a very big family. As long as there are Fisher's, I'm sure we'll have more Fisher houses."

New leisure, TLA travel office open at Bloch Arena

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

Less than a month ago, a new "one-stop shop" for leisure travel opened up at Bloch Arena. Travel Connections' services are available to Sailors, their families and other eligible Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons.

"We wanted to expand our services to Pearl Harbor and out to this end of the island," said Jean Makupson, Travel Connections' supervisor. "We had clients who would make the drive to Kunia for our services."

Travel Connections began life as the leisure travel office at Naval Security Group Activity Kunia. That office opened its doors between five and seven years ago.

Just over a year ago, Makupson said MWR came up with the idea of expanding the office's service area to cover Pearl Harbor.

The new Travel Connections office is located just outside Bloch Arena. The phone number is 422-0139. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Makupson said sponsors for incoming personnel could come to the office to help new arrivals with travel lodging allowance (TLA) arrangements.

Travel Connections can arrange for lodging for incoming or outgoing personnel. In addition, the office here can arrange for a free car while military members are on TLA. Although the office is new here, Makupson said word is out.

"Word did get to the ships," she said. "I got e-mails from the Port Royal about travel from here to the mainland when they get back."

As a leisure travel office, Travel Connections assists Sailors with planning hotel, airfare and ground travel arrangements while on leave in the islands or abroad.

"It's all about finding the best fare for our military personnel," Makupson said. "We offer cruises, Vegas packages, Disneyland packages, inter-island and worldwide packages."

Currently, there is no web link for Travel Concepts. Makupson said she would like to see that changed, but there are no plans currently underway to put a site together.

"There are no plans for a Web site, but we probably will get one eventually," said Makupson.

Even if a Sailor is not considering travel, Makupson said he or she should come in and visit the office to just say, "hi."

"You guys are always so in the crunch," she said. "We're offering a place to loosen up."

Travel Connections offers free cappuccino and hot chocolate in an atmosphere Makupson said is designed to make anyone feel comfortable.

Photos of hula dancers and travel destinations adorn the walls. One Sailor who came into the office took a look around and announced he was in the wrong place. One Travel Connections worker laughed and said that happens fairly regularly while people get used to them being in their new office.

"People should come in and try us," Makupson said. "We're here to serve them, to see what we can do to help with their travel arrangements, and get them the best prices and maybe let their hair down for a little bit."

Navy News asks: What qualities make an outstanding Sailor?



CMDM(SW/AW)
Juan Morales
Command Master Chief
USS Chosin (CG 65)
Foresight.



QM2(SW)
Raymond Diaz
Naval Station Pearl Harbor
Wisdom, knowledge, and leadership.



RP2
Christopher Eddy
Naval Station Pearl Harbor
Someone who is confident in their job and puts Sailors and the Navy above themselves.



STG2(SW)
Jeffery Kaltenbaugh
Commander Navy Region Hawaii
Hard work and dedication.



OS1(SW)
Louie Layug
USS Chosin (CG 65)
Getting all of your qualifications and trying to get advanced.

Bravo Zulu



U.S. Navy photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Johnny Bivera.

The Navy and Marine Corps top leaders, Adm. Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO); the Honorable Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV); and Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps prepare to give testimony to members of the House Armed Services Committee concerning the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization Budget Request for the Department of the Navy.

Congress praises Navy, Marine Corps

JOC Walter T. Ham IV
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

At a Feb. 12 House Armed Services Committee budget hearing, Congressional representatives praised the Navy Marine Corps team for their performance in Operation Iraqi Freedom and their ongoing transformation initiatives.

Secretary of the Navy Gordon England, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Vern Clark and Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael Hagee testified before the committee at the posture hearing focused on the Department of the Navy's \$119.2 billion fiscal year '05 budget request.

"I think the Navy is doing a heck of a good job at transformation," said Connecticut Rep. Rob Simmons, whose district includes naval facilities in Groton. "I think it shows in your presentation." Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter from California also expressed support for the Navy Marine Corps team's investment strategy.

"I'm glad our budget addresses some personnel issues that this committee has worked long and hard to get fixed, including the 3.5 percent pay raises, and increases to basic housing and subsistence allowances so that our service people don't face any out-of-pocket expenses when moving into private housing," said Hunter.

"I am also encouraged by significant increases for the next generation systems, such as the DD(X), the next generation aircraft carrier, and the littoral combat ship," Hunter added. "These all represent solid investments in the people who are protecting us today and the hardware that they'll use tomorrow."

Rep. Susan Davis, whose district includes naval installations in Coronado, Calif., welcomed England back before the committee and thanked the CNO and commandant for their service.

"Mr. Secretary, it's good to have you back in this leadership position, and I know that you mentioned your judgment on these two gentlemen on either side of you," Davis said. "Those in San Diego have certainly had that pleasure, as well."

Rep. Edward Schrock, a retired Navy captain whose district covers the Virginia Beach area, also praised the Navy Marine Corps leadership team.

"I mentioned the three of you and your sense of purpose - you're an inspiration, quite frankly, to all men and women who are privileged to wear our great uniform," Schrock said. "I want to thank you all for your leadership, superbly executing Operation Iraqi Freedom, for quickly resetting your forces to surge again in support of our nation."

The CNO thanked the representatives and the American people for their ongoing support of the Navy Marine Corps team.

"I just wanted to report to you that the Navy Marine Corps team is stronger than I've ever known it to be, and I'm honored to be serving in it," the CNO said.

Clark added that three carrier and two expe-

ditionary strike groups - one-third of the Navy's ships and submarines - are deployed today, including two big deck amphibious ships transferring Marine Corps aircraft in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

England expressed his gratitude for the committee's efforts to provide the resources necessary to confront and defeat America's enemies.

"The heavy burden of liberty and freedom falls upon the men and women of our armed forces. But that burden also falls to this committee," England said. "On behalf of all those great Americans in uniform, I thank you for making sure we're properly resourced."

According to Hagee, Operation Iraqi Freedom demonstrated the value of the nation's investment in the Navy Marine Corps team, citing its ability to "exploit the operational speed, reach and the inherent flexibility of sea power."

"This past year, the Marine Corps, both active and Reserves, was engaged in operations in support of the global war on terrorism - from Afghanistan to the Arabian Gulf, to the Horn of Africa, Liberia, the Georgian Republic, Colombia, Guantanamo Bay, and the Philippines, highlighting the value of our expeditionary capability in Operation Iraqi Freedom," the commandant said.

The CNO outlined the critical role the Navy played during the major combat operations phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Navy projected persistent and precise combat power ashore, transported 94 percent of the joint force, and extended defenses into the littoral to pre-empt Iraqi sea mines and provide early warning by tracking Iraqi ballistic missiles.

Clark added the Navy Marine Corps team's performance in Operation Iraqi Freedom only reaffirmed the importance of a total, joint warfighting team.

England told the representatives the sea services are strong because of the men and women who volunteer to serve in them.

"We are a strong, well-trained, highly-motivated and combat-ready force," he said. "Retention is at record levels, and recruiting continues to be robust. We have the very best people, and morale is high."

As a result of record-breaking retention, Clark said the Navy Marine Corps team is the highest quality force he's seen during his career.

"We have, as the secretary mentioned, the highest retention rates in the history of our institution and that's for a lot of reasons: outstanding leadership in the ranks, new ways to grow and develop our Sailors, improvements in pay and housing, and innovative authorities that were approved by the Congress - competitive re-enlistment and detailing processes, among others," said Clark.

"For all of our advanced technology, for the best readiness that I've seen since I've been wearing the uniform, it is still our people that bring our capabilities to bear, whenever and wherever our nation needs them," the CNO said.



Photo by PHAN Lucious P. Alexander Jr.

AM1 Johnny Robinson from Panama City, Fla. and SH2 Jimmie Small from Augusta, Ga. prime the ship's anchor on Jan. 16 after notification that the Golden Anchor Award was being awarded to USS Enterprise (CVN 65) for fiscal year 2003. The Golden Anchor is awarded to each class of ship for excellence in re-enlistment and retention goals. Enterprise is in the Arabian Gulf region on a regularly-scheduled deployment, conducting missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the continued war on terrorism.

PACFLT's 2003 Golden Anchor winners announced

J02 Heather W. Hines
Commander, Naval Surface Force,
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Surface Force claimed 36 retention excellence awards announced by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Admiral Walter F. Doran in a message dated Dec. 31.

On a list filled with cruisers and destroyers, USS Comstock (LSD 45) managed to stand alone in one category as the only west coast amphibious ship receiving the honor.

In order to garner the "Golden Anchor" award, commands must meet or exceed retention levels set forth by the Navy. The levels were broken down into zones, which reflect Sailors at different points in their career. Minimums for each zone were: zone A (less than six years of service), 56 percent; zone B (six to 10 years of service), 73 percent; and 86 percent for zone C (10-14 years of service). Throughout 2003, Comstock retained 62.2 percent in zone A and 100 percent for both zones B and C.

In addition to Comstock, 24 Pacific Fleet sur-

face ships claimed the award. They are USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19), USS Bunker Hill (CG 52), USS Chancellorsville (CG 62), USS Cowpens (CG 63), USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54), USS Cushing (DD 985), USS Fife (DD 991), USS Ford (FFG 54), USS Gary (FFG 51), USS Hopper (DDG 70), USS Lake Erie (CG 70), USS McCampbell (DDG 85), USS Milius (DDG 69), USS Mobile Bay (CG 53), USS Monsoon (PC 4), USS Preble (DDG 88), USS Rainier (AOE 7), USS Rentz (FFG 46), USS Reuben James (FFG 57), USS Salvor (ARS 52), USS Shiloh (CG 67), USS Squall (PC 7) and USS Vandegrift (FFG 48).

Twelve shore-based commands also earned the award. They are: Assault Craft Unit 5; Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific; Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 1 (staff); Commander, Naval Beach Group 1 (staff); Commander, Tactical Training Group 1 (staff); Explosive Ordnance Group 1; Explosive Ordnance Training and Evaluation Unit 1; Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5; Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 7; Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 109; Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1; and Naval Coastal Warfare Group 1.

Official proclamation welcomes Pilila'au



Photo by Larry "E" Crutchfield

Dante Carpenter (second from right), trustee with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, State of Hawai'i, presents Capt. Frank Reed, master of the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command ship, USNS Pilila'au, with a proclamation welcoming the ship to Oahu. The ship is in Hawai'i to pick up equipment belonging to the U.S. Army's 25th Infantry Division that will be deploying soon to Afghanistan. USNS Pilila'au was named for Medal of Honor winner, Pvt. Herbert Pilila'au, an Oahu native killed in action at Heartbreak Ridge during the Korean War. James Pilila'au (left) is Pvt. Pilila'au's nephew. Ruditt Liboy Sr. (right) is a friend of the Pilila'au family. The presentation was held Feb. 12 on Pilila'au's port bridge wing. In the background over Reed's shoulder is the USS Arizona Memorial.

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PPV: Company plans to build 'communities'

Continued from A-1

and we're committed to you and providing you with the quality of life amenities that you deserve."

According to Denise Gammon, senior vice president of development at HMC, "The overall plan is to create neighborhoods that will enhance quality of life for Navy families. Our focus is not just on houses, we build communities," she said. This would be achieved by avoiding a "cookie cutter" appearance by using varied designs for the homes, Gammon said. Emphasis in the new communities will be placed on pedestrian-friendly environments and safer places for children.

Arranged in duplex and single family configurations in a green court arrangement, the floor plans of the homes will offer a strong indoor-outdoor connection with front porches, side lanais and fenced side yard, and rear patios. They will have central air conditioning, state-of-the-art energy-efficient appliances, abundant storage and larger bedrooms.

The new designs will range from three to five bedrooms and depending on the neighborhood, comprise a minimum of 1,750 square feet up to 2,775 square feet.

The plan for Radford Terrace calls for three-four bedroom duplex homes for enlisted service members E-1 through E-6 and living area from 1,750 to 1,995 square feet. In Halsey Terrace, homes will be single family, three to five bedroom floor plans from 1,950 to 2,430 square feet and will be assigned to enlisted E-7 and higher and officers through O-3. McGrew Point homes, ranging in size from 2,300 to 2,775 square feet, will be single family, three to five bedrooms and assigned to officers O-4 and O-5.

Another aspect contributing to quality of life would focus on gathering places, such as green spaces and community centers, which would be the focal point of each community. "Open spaces are integral to the plan - not residual," said Gammon.

Five community centers will be constructed, ranging in size from 5,000 to 12,000 square feet. The centers will feature such amenities as fitness rooms, meeting rooms and outdoor pools. In addition to centralized community centers, the neighborhoods will feature tot lots and play areas and an abundance of common areas. Grassy, lighted pathways will connect homes to larger, shared spaces.

Management, maintenance and service for all housing residents in the five neighborhoods affected by the first phase of PPV will be handled by Forest City Management.

Although the company plans to eventually locate management offices in each community, they will begin operations with offices in two locations - one at Moanalua Terrace and one at the Navy Aloha Center. Hours of operation for both offices will be from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

There will also be a maintenance office located at building 16 adjacent to the current housing self-help store.

A service request line and emergency maintenance line will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergency service requests, the response time will be approximately 30 minutes. Urgent calls will be answered within a couple hours and routine calls will take about 24 hours for response.

As part of Forest City's landscaping/grounds program, housing residents in phase one of PPV will receive the following services: maintenance of all

yards except for fenced in back yards, tree service, modified self-help programs, annual preventive maintenance and professional pest control services.

Renters' insurance coverage of \$35,000 will be provided for all residents at no cost; policies will have \$250 deductible clauses.

Pat Reynolds, director of loss prevention and security for Forest City Management, explained that the management company will manage safety, security, fire prevention and loss prevention at all of the PPV properties. Police and fire protection will be provided by the city and county of Honolulu. There will be 24-hour security patrols throughout the communities.

The management company will hold neighborhood orientations to apprise housing residents of the changes taking place. They will also distribute a community newsletter and establish focus groups.

Housing residents in PPV neighborhoods will be required to convert to a Forest City rental agreement. Gen Lewis, assistant vice president for military housing for Forest City Management, described the rental agreements as military-friendly, 12-month leases with military clauses. There will also be "grandfather clauses," pertaining to various conditions such as pet requirements, for current housing residents.

Rental agreements will be mailed out in mid-February and must be signed and returned to Forest City Management by March 16. Military members should also complete allotment forms, ensuring that BAH payments are available to the management company for the April rent. Neighborhood orientations will be held March 2-4 at the Moanalua Community Center.

At the conclusion of exclusive negotiations, the contract will be signed in the March 2004 timeframe. The first phase of PPV will include about 1,948 homes in five neighborhoods: Halsey Terrace, Hokulani, McGrew Point, Moanalua Terrace and Radford Terrace.

Construction of new homes will begin soon after housing privatization starts on April 1 in the three communities slated for replacement - Halsey Terrace, McGrew Point and Radford Terrace. Each community will be divided into four phases of development.

The first segment of the newly-constructed homes is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy by December 2004. The Navy Aloha Center will continue to maintain waiting lists and will refer residents to the contractor as homes become available.

It's an exciting time for Navy housing in Hawai'i - as the Navy moves another step closer to housing privatization. "Housing is the premiere "quality of life" issue in today's Navy," iterated Capt. Ho. "And it will continue to be as the Navy implements plans to make the most of its resources and acquire more for its housing dollars," he said.

Information about the PPV presentation at the Feb. 10-11 town hall meetings will air on Navy Channel 2 at the following times: 8 a.m. 1 p.m. 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Viewers can check Navy Channel 2 listings for more airings.

For more information about Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC and Forest City Management and the plan for the first phase of PPV, visit www.Hmcliving.com. For more information about the Navy's PPV initiative in Hawai'i, visit www.hawaii.navy.mil/housing/PPV/ppv_index.htm.

Editors note: See related story on page B-2

Titan cheerleaders visit USS Honolulu



Photo by J03 Corwin M. Colbert

Following the National Football League's Pro Bowl, the Tennessee Titan cheerleaders visited USS Honolulu (SSN 718) on Feb. 13 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The cheerleaders were given a tour to learn how U.S. Navy submarines operate.