

Disc golf takes flight in Hawai'i



Photo by JO3 Devin Wright

Todd Loskot tees off on a hole three known as "The Lone Palm," a 320-foot hole. Disc golf is an alternative to traditional golf. Disc golf is played much the same way as ball golf, only instead of hitting a ball a couple hundred yards to the pin a disc is thrown a few hundred feet to the pin. Instead of a hole to fall in, there is a basket or "pole hole."

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

There's a bit of a gust today. You'll probably want to use your Viper. It's a heavy driver and will push through the air like Warren Sapp through an offensive line on any given Sunday. If you throw sidearm, you'll break right near the pin, but if it breaks too much, you'll end up on the road. That's out of bounds and will cost you a stroke - better lay it up.

To an avid golfer, some of this makes sense; words like, par, pin, driver and lay up are familiar golfing terms. However, the avid golfer must be confused with words like Viper, throw and sidearm. It's golf ... well, disc golf.

Disc golf is an alternative to traditional golf.

"It's a great way for service members to enjoy a game of golf at a reasonable price," said Todd Loskot, a former Army sergeant and devoted disc golfer. "You can purchase a driver, mid range, and putter for about \$30 and be ready to play.

There are no green fees so if you compare this to traditional golf, it's only a fraction of the cost," said Loskot. "It also offers a wonderful opportunity for service members who may not be on top of their golf game to get out on a course and try their skills at this golfing substitute."

Disc golf is played much the same way as traditional golf with a few exceptions. Instead of hitting a ball a few hundred yards toward a pin, a disc is thrown a few hundred feet toward the pin. Instead of a hole for the ball to fall into, there is a basket or "pole hole" with chains linked vertically to kill the momentum of the disc and drop into the basket.

Disc golfers play as a team more than individuals. If it appears a disc is going too high, don't be surprised to hear competitors demanding the disc "get down" or when a player's done well "sweet shot" and the occasional "good luck" just before teeing off.

According to Loskot, "99 percent of all disc golfers are extremely friendly. That's just the way it is out here," said Loskot. "Disc golf is a fairly

unknown sport. I think that's what binds us together. We share an uncommon interest."

Because there are no "real" disc golf courses on Oahu, many players set up and maintain the temporary courses themselves.

Brian Curtis, a member of the Honolulu Disc Golf Association, said because a lot of the players are working class, they are willing to put in the labor to play the game.

"Everything that goes on with the local disc golf scene is because dedicated people are willing to work for it," said Curtis. "It's a true grassroots sport."

Curtis said the military link is what the sport needs to take off in Hawai'i.

"It would be great if more military came out to play with us," said Curtis.

"They have a great reputation and I think that would attract more people to the game."

The game originated in 1969 in Pasadena, Calif. The earlier games used natural objects (trees, light posts, trash cans, etc.) as targets.

Today there are approximately 3,000 disc golf

courses worldwide and about 3,000,000 regular players and over 20,000 professional members of the professional disc golf association. In 2003, 350 golfers participated in the World Championship held in North Carolina with a purse of \$64,000.

Tournaments here on Oahu have a purse of a beer mug or a free disc, but players of all levels play because they love the game.

"It's a great opportunity for novice and connoisseurs to get outdoors with friends, meet new people, and there is just something aesthetically pleasing about watching a disc fly," said Curtis.

Golfers meet every Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Sand Island National Park for a few rounds of disc. Tournaments are held on the last Sunday of every month on Sand Island or Koko Head.

So if the daily grind has you yelling fore and you need to get out for some good company and friendly competition, you'll always par the course in disc golf.

For more information on course layouts and tournaments, go to www.hdga.org.



Photo by JO3 Devin Wright

Todd Loskot's dog, Taco, guards his golf bag while Loskot contemplates his next shot at Sand Island National Park.



Photo by JO3 Devin Wright

Todd Loskot putts on the slope of a hill toward the "pole hole." A "pole hole" or basket stands upright out of the ground at about four feet. The basket is equipped with vertically linked chains to kill the momentum of the disc as it falls into the basket.

Commentary

Focus on Fun

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Killing your supper - island style ...

I've been off-island for a while, wasting away in the frozen wastelands of Maryland. If any of you have never experienced the hoary bite of frost on your face as you slog through a foot and a half of snow on a nearly obliterated footpath, you're luckier than ever I'll be. My glee at feeling the warm Hawaiian sun on my face was immeasurable. I let out a barbaric yawn upon my return. Now, on to my latest adventure.

To achieve that goal, members hold regular meetings at the Outdoor Adventure Center here. If you haven't heard of the get togethers, I'd suggest either picking up a copy of Liberty Call, going to the www.greatlifeohawaii.com site, visiting the OAC or calling them at 473-1198.

At the workshop, we learned that you need a license to hunt pig in Hawai'i. The licenses run about \$90 for a year. However, before getting a license, you will need to attend a free hunting course. The next course is tonight from 5:45 to 9:45 p.m. and there's one tomorrow from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The courses are held at the Nimitz Business Center on N. Nimitz Highway. You can call 587-0200 to pre-register or get more information.

Once you have your license, there are literally acres and acres around Oahu you can go and hunt. There are public lands where you can go out and look for the elusive pig. The limit is one pig per person per day, so, if kalua pork is your passion, you can catch your fill pretty regularly.

The association members recommended novice hunters hook up with experienced hunters like them. The Pig Hunters Association does not charge Sailors to go hunting with them. Like I said, the avowed purpose of the association is to perpetuate the culture so they are only too happy to go out with us on a hunt. They hunt with dogs, however, and there is a method to the hunt.

Pigs go where people do not go, was a recurring chorus in the meeting. The guys reminded us that the hunt involves a lot of walking. For the sake of ease, I'll keep to one particular hunting spot - the Waimano Home area - for a while.

They said the normal time to get up is around 2:30 a.m. so they could be ready to take off by 3:30 a.m. They like to be in the hunting area early - about half an hour or so before sun up so they have to reach the entrance to the area about an hour before that because the hunting area is about six miles in. Keep in mind that

they leave the truck well outside the hunting area and you will be walking in. You will be walking in through brush, trees and hills for about six miles. Let's keep that in mind, boys and girls.

Once you hike your first six miles, you start looking around - stalking the pig. The dogs are peeled for signs of pig activity. Our instructors at the workshop said pigs usually like to stay around streams so that is where they concentrate a lot of activity. Also, pigs are basically nocturnal, so they will probably be holed up in the side of a hill - holed up being a key term to remember.

Once the dogs scent a pig, they are released. The pig hunters follow them and keep an ear pricked to pick up the sounds of the dogs bringing a pig to bear. Remember, that I said pigs hole up? Well, this means their shoulders are incredibly strong because they use their tusks to dig the holes. Also, male pigs - boars - have what is basically an armor plate at the base of the neck. One of our instructors told me the plate on one boar took a .357 magnum slug without flinching in that plate at less than 10 yards.

So, once the dogs have the pig, you, as a hunter, will have to go up behind the pig, cut the Achilles tendon, then jab your knife behind the third rib to pierce its heart. Sound hard? Well, our instructors said the hunt could be dangerous. They also said you have to be in pretty fair shape. Remember the six miles you hike in? You have to hike that back out and, on a good day, you might have over 150 pounds of pig strapped to your back.

In addition to the Waimano Home area, Sailors have access to military hunting areas, like Schofield. There are also other hunting areas the Pig Hunting Association knows about. You can write them at kailipipi@verizon.net. There are other hunting areas on the Hawaiian Islands. Our instructors told us about hunting on the Big Island. They said there was a pig killed there that topped out over 750 pounds. Try slogging through the woods with that on your back. They also mentioned there are pay sites where you can go and hunt on private lands. Getting a pig there is almost guaranteed. However, the cost averages around \$500 to hunt for a day and about \$150 extra per inch of tusk on your pig. So, their recommendation is to just go to the public lands. The only guarantee there is that you'll be walking, but it's cheaper for you in the long run.

Me? I'm going out tomorrow. Yes, you read correctly. If you picked this up on the day of publication, I'll be headed out to the Waimano Home area with the Pig Hunting Association of Oahu to try and get me a real Hawaiian pig. Next time - and this is a no-kidding deal - I'll tell you about my day out in the Oahu wilds as I stalked a pig, but that's another story ...

Moving - the Navy way of life

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

Moving from place to place is a way of life for military families. But an additional move has been thrown into the mix for some military families in Hawai'i as the Navy and its partner, Hawai'i Military Communities, LLC, move ahead with public-private venture (PPV).

In order to build brand new, state-of-the-art spacious homes to improve the quality of life for Navy families, older homes have to be demolished. That means some families have to move.

What effect does PPV and the necessity of relocating have on Navy families?

"I just go with the flow. Life goes on," said Beverly Gault, whose husband, Chief Gunner's Mate John Gault is assigned to the USS Reuben James. Gault explained why she and her family opted to move from one Halsey home to another. "I wanted to stay in Halsey. I've been here for three years. Besides, all of my stuff couldn't fit in the new Radford home," she said. The move, which will take place in early March, will be relatively easy for Chief and Mrs. Gault and their two children since it's only two streets away. She gave high marks to the housing staff for their help. "Gail [Lile] is the best woman in the world. Everything went smooth," she said. "We'll only be there for about nine months and then I don't know what after that," she explained. "But it doesn't matter to me," she laughed good-naturedly. "Life goes on."

Fire Control technician 1st Class David Thompson and his wife Jennifer also chose to remain in the Halsey neighborhood. "We had an opportunity to take a Moanalua Terrace home, but it was much smaller than what we have here which would have been a hardship," said Mrs. Thompson. Living on the local economy was not an option. "We went in town and looked and it was very expensive. Trying to find something was a challenge and we were looking at a long commute," she commented. The Thompson fami-



Artist rendering courtesy of Hawai'i Military Communities LLC

An artist rendering of the future community centers, located in each of the Navy housing areas.

ly will move at the end of February. "Staying in Halsey was easier for us and everything's going to fit," explained Mrs. Thompson.

Three families made the decision to move into new Radford homes. Master Chief Machinist Mate James Nichols was in the process of moving, but took a few minutes to explain how the move was going. "I'm leaving [Hawai'i] in a little over a year so it's a chance to enjoy the new housing," he stated. He described his new four-bedroom Radford home as larger than his older Halsey home. Another benefit for Nichols, who has lived in Hawai'i since 1998, is that his children can remain in the same schools. He said the housing staff worked with him to make the move as easy as possible. "Housing has been more than accommodating," he offered.

Chief Intelligence Specialist Chris Cardona, an 18-year Navy veteran, is looking forward to moving into his new Radford home early in March. "It's a brand new home and does have amenities, such as central air conditioning, modern construction and a garage," he said. There are always going to be pros and cons. "It's not going to be a perfect situation, but nothing is," explained the chief.

"For now, it doesn't make much difference to me. I can live on a ship with 300 Sailors or 4,000 Sailors or anywhere," he admitted, but explained that he has more concerns for his family.

Working with housing personnel has made the moving process

a smooth transition, according to Cardona. "Housing has been great. They have made this so smooth. They have been proactive and a big help," Cardona said. He was also glad to know that housing will still be involved even after PPV has taken place. "It's nice to know housing will still be involved later. They understand the military," he said.

Aviation Boatswain (Fuels) 2nd Class Paul Herrera and his wife, Louann, relocated from old Radford housing to new Radford housing. They moved into their brand new home in early February and are very happy. "It's [the new Radford house] is a lot bigger and a lot more modern," explained Mrs. Herrera. The move came at a time when there was a lot going on in the Herrera household since the newest member of the family was barely a month old when they packed up and relocated to their new Radford home.

The Herreras have two other children, age four years and two years. "The kids got to stay with their friends and that was important to us," said Mrs. Herrera. For the Herrera family, the choice was an easy one. "We were looking forward to moving - our old house was much smaller," explained Mrs. Herrera.

Moving is never easy, but Capt. Norman Ho and his housing staff have pledged to make the transition as smooth as possible and stand ready to assist families who must be relocated throughout the public-private venture (PPV).

PPV vs. comparative homes in the civilian sector

Compared to the cost of purchasing or renting a new home in the civilian community, renting one of the Navy's new PPV homes is quite a bargain. Here's a look at what it might cost for a comparable home in a nearby neighborhood in the local community:

PPV House	Median Sales (New)	Median Sales (Resale)	Median Rentals
Duplex - 1,750-1,995 sq. ft.- 3-4 BR	\$250,000-\$350,000 (townhouses)	\$183,000-\$310,000 (townhouses)	\$1,500-\$2,300/month (townhouses)
Single family - 1,950-2,430 sq. ft.- 3-5 BR	\$350,000-\$500,000 (single family)	\$279,900-\$495,000 (single family)	\$1,900-\$3,395/month (single family)
Single family - 2,300-2,775 sq. ft.- 3-5 BR	\$350,000-\$500,000 (single family)	\$279,900-\$495,000 (single family)	\$1,900-\$3,395/month (single family)

(Information on range of comparative costs for leeward areas of Oahu are provided courtesy of Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties.)

MWR

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater, Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. Something's Gotta Give (PG 13)
SATURDAY
2:30 p.m. Peter Pan (PG)
4:45 p.m. The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (PG 13)
SUNDAY
2:30 p.m. Teacher's Pet (PG)
4:45 p.m. Stuck on You (PG 13)
6:45 p.m. Paycheck (PG 13)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Something's Gotta Give (PG 13)

\$3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)

Memorial Theater, Hickam AFB
(449-2239)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. Teacher's Pet (PG)
SATURDAY
2:00 p.m. Teacher's Pet (PG)
SUNDAY
7:00 p.m. Chasing Liberty (PG)
WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. Chasing Liberty (PG)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Teacher's Pet (PG)

3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)

Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks
(624-2585)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (PG 13)
SATURDAY
7:00 p.m. The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (PG 13)
SUNDAY
2:00 p.m. The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (PG 13)
WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. House of Sand and Fog (R)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. House of Sand and Fog (R)

3 adults; \$1.50 children (6-11)
*Special: \$2 adults; \$1 children (6-11)



Chasing Liberty: The daughter of President James Foster, anxious for some breathing room, ditches her Secret Security detail Weiss and Cynthia and sets out across Europe with her boyfriend Ben.

House of Sand and Fog: Massoud, despite a pretense of continued affluence, is barely making ends meet until he sees a opportunity in the auction of a house being sold for back taxes. It is a terrible mistake. The house has been improperly seized from its rightful owner, who decides to fight to recover it at any cost

Lord of the Rings: Return of the King: Hobbits Frodo and Sam push farther into the land of Mordor to destroy the ring of power. Traveling with them, in an uneasy alliance, is the deceitful Gollum, who brings them to the very heart of Mount Doom.

Paycheck: Michael has his memory erased by his employer as a security precaution once he's completed special projects. After finishing his latest, he receives not his usual lucrative paycheck, but an envelope containing 19 items, including ticket stubs, bus tokens, and other reminders he sent himself before the procedure.

Peter Pan: One night in their nursery, young London siblings Wendy, John, and Michael Darling encounter a strange flying boy, who invites them to soar with him to Neverland.

Something's Gotta Give: Harry has his world turned upside-down when he has a heart attack while visiting his girlfriend's home and is left in the care of her mother.

Stuck on You: Matt Damon and Greg Kinnear star as conjoined twins, one of whom has dreams of making it big in Hollywood.

Teacher's Pet: This is the story of a dog that is so curious about the world that he has taught himself how to read, and sneaks to school where he poses as a human.

Editor's note: Every effort has been made to provide the most up-to-date information at the time of publication. However, scheduling of these events is subject to change. It is recommended that you call the contact numbers for the individual events to determine whether or not the activity will be held.

ADULT SAILING CLINICS

Join MWR at Rainbow Bay Marina every Sunday for sailing clinics. Learn some tricks and tips or just come to play. The next one will be Feb. 22 at Columbia 22. The clinics are from 9 a.m. to noon every Sunday and are \$10 per clinic. For more information, call 473-0279.

WENTWORTH CUP TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Wentworth Cup Tennis Tournament will be held today through Feb. 22 at the Wentworth tennis courts at Pearl Harbor. Divisions include men's, women's and mixed - open, B and C. Each team match consists of one doubles and two singles. The maximum is four players per team in a double elimination format. The cost is \$5 per player. For more information, call 473-0610.

TRAVEL AND TLA OFFICE NOW OPEN IN BLOCH ARENA

Visit MWR Travel Connections for your airline ticketing needs. Check out the new office now open in Bloch Arena and enjoy some free cappuccino while making your travel plans to any destination in the world. There are no hidden fees or commissions. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday - Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 422-0139 or email mwrkunia005@hawaii.rr.com.

COMMAND FUNCTION SPECIAL

MWR bowling and catering specials are offered from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at the Naval Station Bowling Center. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information or to make reservations, call 473-2574.

NAVSTA BOWLING CENTER SNACK BAR CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS

The NAVSTA Bowling Center snack

bar will be closed for approximately 30 days for renovations. In the meantime, patrons can visit the lunch wagon in front of the bowling center. Throughout the renovations, the bowling center will remain open its regular hours. For more information, call 473-2651.

VOLLEYBALL ON FREE-DAY FRIDAY

Free day Fridays are held from 6:30-10 p.m. every Friday at the sand volleyball courts at Wentworth Pro Shop. Teams are doubles and fours. All players are welcome to participate. For more information, call 473-0610.

CALLING ALL KINGPINS

Check out the bowling events at Naval Station Bowling Center. Regularly held activities include:

- Active duty patrons bowl free from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. every Monday.
- Kids bowl free (one per paying adult) starting from 6 to 10 p.m. every Monday evening.
- Pick-a-price Tuesdays are from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Bowlers can try their luck and pick the price for games from 50 cents to \$1.50. For more information, call 473-2651.

COACHES NEEDED - BASKETBALL AND BASEBALL

Boys & Girls Clubs of Navy Hawai'i is looking for volunteer coaches. There are several children who are interested in participating, but there are not enough volunteer coaches. No experience is necessary. If you have a few hours to spare, call 474-3501.

GET YOUR HEAD UNDER THE HOOD

Go to any Navy Region Auto Skills Center (Pearl Harbor, West Loch or NCTAMS) for expert guidance on engine tune-ups, oil changes, etc., from the highly-trained staff. Auto repair hobbyists can rent bays or lifts and borrow from an extensive line of tools and equipment. Computer diagnostics are available for most vehicles. For more information, call 471-9072.

GET AWAY AT THE BEACH

Rent a Barbers Point beach cottage for a relaxing mini-vacation. The cottages feature one, two or three bedrooms, are fully furnished and have all the amenities needed for a comfortable stay away from home. Cottage

reservations are accepted at the ITT office at The Mall at Pearl Harbor. Advance reservation categories apply, so plan accordingly. For more information, call Information, Tickets and Tours at 422-2757.

PLACE TO PARTY

Having a party too big for your home? Rent a neighborhood community center. The centers offer facilities that provide all of the amenities needed to host a birthday party, wedding or perhaps a promotion reception. Navy family housing residents are eligible to reserve the community center in their housing areas up to six months in advance. For more information, call Community Central at 471-8658.



FEBRUARY

Feb. 20: Evening Escapades in Waikiki, bring money. Leave from LIP at 5 p.m.

Feb. 21: Box car racing, \$5. Leave from LIP at 4 p.m.

Feb. 28: Sandy Beach and shopping, bring money. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

Restaurant Row and movie, bring money. Leave from LIP at 5 p.m.

MARCH

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Free concert
Eliot Sloan live at Beeman Center beginning at 9 p.m. March 6. Lead singer and songwriter for pop group Blessid Union of Souls, Sloan helped shape the sound of 1990s music with hits like "Light in Your Eyes" and Blessid's number 1 hit, "I Believe." For more information, call 473-0606.

Barracks Bash

Free concert for Single Sailors featuring The Lloyd Dobler Effect from 6-9 p.m. March 19 at Arizona Hall. Enjoy free barbecue, giveaways and more. For more information, call 473-4279.

March 1: XBOX Halo Tournament, free, 6 p.m. at LIP.

March 2: Go kart racing, \$25. Leave from LIP at 4 p.m.

March 3: Vegas night, free, 5 p.m. at LIP.

March 4: Starlet sunset dinner cruise, \$24. Leave from LIP at 3 p.m.

March 5: Waterskiing, \$5. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 6: Skydiving, \$125. Leave from LIP at 9 a.m.

March 7: Reading day, free books, 5 p.m. at LIP.

March 9: Sea Life Park, \$13. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 10: Around the island tour, bring money. Leave from LIP at 9 a.m.

March 11: Board game night, win prizes, free, 7 p.m. at LIP.

March 12: Polynesian Cultural Center, \$62.50. Leave from LIP at 4 p.m.

March 13: Hiking at Makapu'u, bring money. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 14: Eating contest, free, 1 p.m. at LIP.

March 15: Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park, \$21. Leave from LIP at 11 a.m.

March 16: Dave and Buster's/Cold Stone Creamery, bring money. Leave from LIP at 5 p.m.

March 17: Kualoa Ranch adventure, \$65. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 20: Waimea Falls, cost to be announced. Leave from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 21: Hawaii beach party/activities, \$80. Depart from LIP at 9 a.m.

March 27: Haleiwa for the day, \$2 and bring money. Depart from LIP at 10 a.m.

March 30: Valley of the Temples, \$4. Depart from LIP at 10 a.m.

Weekly events:

Sunday and Thursday: Movie and popcorn night, 6 p.m., free.

Monday: NFL football and pupus, 6:30 p.m., free.

Tuesday: 8-Tournament, 7 p.m., free.

Wednesday: Ping Pong Tournament, 6 p.m., free.

Community Calendar

Here's a look at off-duty events happening on Oahu's military bases for service members and their families.

To get your activity or event featured in the Community Calendar, e-mail your requests to the editor at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or fax submissions to Hawai'i Navy News at 473-2876.

Deadline for submissions is Thursday for the following week's issue. Items will run for four consecutive weeks on a space available basis (see footnote numbers after each event). After four weeks, they should be updated and resubmitted to HNN.

MISCELLANEOUS

BLOOD DRIVES

- Feb. 26: 9 a.m.-noon, Hickam Community Center, Hickam AFB.
 - March 1: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
 - March 5: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army, 29th ENG BN, Fort Shafter.
 - March 8: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
 - March 15: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
 - March 22: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
 - March 25: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Air Force, Hickam Community Center, Hickam Air Force Base.
 - March 29: 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
- For more information, call 433-6148.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

The Joint Intelligence Center Pacific's African-American heritage committee will sponsor a celebration to be held at the Banyan's ballroom tonight. All military, Department of Defense and civilian personnel are cordially invited to attend the celebration and will be admitted at no charge to the formal program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. A dinner will precede the formal program. For reservations or more information, contact Lt. Kevin Cox at 473-6877, CTR1 Cynthia Dodd at 473-6443 or SFC Jannece Lawson at 473-6451.(2)

CHAPEL SEMINARS

The chapels at Naval Station Pearl Harbor will host "The Purpose Driven

Life" fellowships beginning Feb. 25 and continuing through Easter Sunday. For more information, call 473-3972. (1)

FREE UH TICKETS

The University of Hawaii at Manoa is offering free tickets to UH athletic events to uniformed military personnel and their families. The offer is part of a UH "Koa Aloha" military support program. Free tickets are available for the men's volleyball match, UH versus UCLA on Feb. 26. The game starts at 7 p.m. at Stan Sheriff Center. Tickets must be obtained in advance of game day by contacting the SSC box office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Military personnel from any branch of the service must present a valid military ID for a ticket for themselves and as many as three dependents - a maximum of four free tickets. For more information, call 956-6520. (1)

HEROES' PASS AT MIGHTY MO

The USS Missouri Memorial Association, caretaker of the Battleship Missouri, is offering the Heroes' Pass, allowing Hawai'i residents to give friends and family a free pass to America's last and greatest battleship. Exclusively for kamaaina, the \$15 pass provides unlimited admission to the Battleship Missouri Memorial for the pass holder for one year, plus numerous additional savings such as:

- \$10 off the memorial's explorer's or captain's tours.
- One free chief's guided tour when purchasing one at the regular price of \$6.
- 10 percent off retail purchases from the ship's gift store.

Heroes' Passes are available for purchase at the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Admission for kamaaina is usually \$10 per adult. For additional information, call 454-1434 on Oahu, toll free at 1-877-MIGHTYMO, or visit www.usmissouri.org. (3)

FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

The Armed Services YMCA is holding the Fifth Annual Father-Daughter Dance on March 13, sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA. It will be held at the Marine Corps Base Hawai'i Officer's Club from 5 - 8 p.m. Included is a buffet dinner, door prizes, and entertainment. Ticket prices: \$7 for girls age four and under, \$14 for girls five-11, \$16 for girls age 12 and older and fathers. The father-daughter dance is open to all ranks. Tickets will be for sale in front of the optical shop at

the NEX from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 23, Feb. 28, March 6. For tickets and more information, call 254-4719. (3)

SHIP/SUBMARINE OHANA

USS HOPPER OHANA

The USS Hopper Ohana will host its monthly breakfast club beginning at 9 a.m. Feb. 21 at the Shorebirds in Waikiki. The event is dutch treat. For more information, contact hopperohana70@yahoo.com or Sabrina at 499-0555

The USS Hopper Ohana will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. March 2 at the fellowship hall of the Pearl Harbor Base Chapel. A guest speaker will discuss volunteer opportunities in the community. The ohana will also discuss the cookbook, Easter egg hunt and other upcoming events. Childcare is available free of charge. For more information, contact hopperohana70@yahoo.com or Sabrina at 499-0555 (2)

NEX

I LOVE COUNTRY CAFÉ GRAND OPENING

The Mall at Pearl Harbor's newest food court restaurant, I Love Country Café, will celebrate its grand opening Feb. 23-27. During that time, enjoy daily specials. (1)

KNIFE DEMO

A representative from Mac Knife Hawaii will hosting a knives demo from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 21-22. (1)

SHOP AND WIN

The 2004 Shop NEX bumper stickers are available at any Navy Exchange location. Place a bumper sticker on your car for your chance to win a \$25 gift certificate from your Navy Exchange; winners are selected weekly. Winners are then entered in a grand prize drawing for a \$2,000 shopping spree at the Navy Exchange. (1)

COMPUTER SERVICE

Get technical assistance for your Mac or PC right at the Navy Exchange. Supergeeks, located in the electronics department, offers expert computer service and can help with computer repairs, parts and upgrades from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday to Saturday. For more information, call 421-3537. (1)

24-HOUR LAUNDROMAT

Visit the 24-hour NEX laundromat at Club Pearl for all your laundry needs. It features coin operated washers and dryers. (1)

ARMED SERVICES

YMCA

ALIAMANU LOCATION:

The Aliamanu (AMR) branch of the Armed Services YMCA is located at 1875 Aliamanu Drive, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96818. The phone number is 833-1185, fax 834-3631, email is ASYMCAAMR@aol.com. Hours are 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

T.O.P.S.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), a nonprofit, noncommercial weight-loss support group, meets every Wednesday at the Armed Services YMCA, Aliamanu location. Weigh-in begins at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:15 p.m. Membership fees are low and includes the T.O.P.S. magazine. There are also incentive programs offered. The first meeting is free. For more information, call Delcie at 623-1403. (2)

LAMAZE CLASSES

Lamaze classes provide information and instruction on everything you need to know about childbirth. The next class will be held Feb. 26-April 1 and meets from 7-9 p.m. every Thursday for six weeks. Payment and reservations are required by Feb. 19. For more information, call 833-1185. (2)

KEIKI CARE CLASS

Keiki Care classes provide childcare training, first aid and CPR certification for teenagers who would like to be babysitters. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be placed on the Super Sitters' List. To sign up or for more information, call 833-1185. (2)

CHILDREN'S WAITING ROOM

The Children's Waiting Room is a place where parents can drop off their children if they have a doctor's appointment. The Armed Services YMCA is in need of volunteers to keep this program running at Tripler Army Medical Center. The hours of the waiting room are from 8 a.m.-noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Those who are interested in volunteering or who wish to place an appointment should call 833-1185. (2)

Maintaining the historic 'Mighty Mo'

Rick Saltzman

PACDIV Public Affairs

She's still a sight to behold. However, she does tilt slightly to the left; red-dish-brown imperfections blemish her skin; and she doesn't have all her original parts. Is she an aging movie star who's had cosmetic surgery? No. This ageless icon is the Battleship Missouri.

Larry Bates, transportation equipment management specialist with the Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, volunteers on the Missouri almost every Saturday along with about 10 other deckhands. Their quest is to keep the "gracious, gray lady" looking almost new and shipshape. He explained the proud battlewagon's nautical ailments.

"Her ballast tanks are empty and sealed," Bates said. "We're trying to get permission to level her out and we received the specifications, but not the Navy's permission yet. She has lots of rust on her steel decks and beneath the teak decks, and we're constantly replacing broken or missing equipment."

The historic battleship is moored near the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor's historic Ford Island.

The 887-foot ship is also known by her Navy designation BB-63.

"I like ships," Bates emphasized. "I worked on this ship when she was recommissioned in Long Beach, Calif. We have a history."

Volunteers come from all the services and civilian life. "Two ladies toured the ship when it first arrived and they've been volunteers ever since," he added.

A group of retired FBI agents spent a weekend volunteering in January. For a week, small groups of mainland tourists spend part of the day on the ship and return to their Waikiki hotels



U.S. Navy photo

Volunteers work on the historic battleship Missouri, moored near the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor's historic Ford Island.

in the afternoons to enjoy their vacations. "Others assist for a few hours, get their hands and faces dirty, and come back for more," observed Bates.

Other caretakers work every weekday. "We need volunteers any day of the week, even if it's just one time," remarked Bates. "It's hard work, but it's a lot of fun."

Bates is neither an architect nor engineer, but after 37 years as a Sailor and Navy civilian, he knows and loves ships and the sea. "I was a senior chief gunner's mate when I retired. That was 90 percent maintenance and 10 percent gunner."

The Missouri's active duty crew numbered about 2,000 while the ship was in commissioned service and 500 carried out daily maintenance on the deck and outside surfaces. Compare that crew to the 25 other volunteers who help during the week. Bates said

they have little experience, and everyone tries to do the same tasks that 500 trained Sailors performed.

"I came here to work on the guns, but I got shanghaied to work on the deck which needed more help plus other special projects," Bates said. "We built a podium which is on the quarterdeck and we built a desk for President Bush's recent visit. He was supposed to sign some papers on the ship. That was cancelled at the last minute, but he did tour the ship," he said.

Bates said the decks were tapered so water would run off, but because of the port list, standing water got under the wood and corroded the metal. The aft deck is in poor condition.

He stepped on one of the "old" teak planks and water came up through the cracks. The current deck is a mix of old and new teak. Old teak has no

knotholes and he said the new teak that growers cultivate quickly contains knots and twists.

Two inches is the average thickness of the wood, depending upon the location on the ship. Some areas have four-inch-thick planks. "I'd be surprised if any pieces of the original teak deck exist," he exclaimed. "We received a federal grant to redo the aft deck and that's work we would have done by ourselves. We have someone in Washington state who acquired lots of old teak."

Teak does not rot from water damage as readily as other woods, but the metal underneath will rust if water seeps through.

"Rust is basically a slow burning process and will burn the back of the wood. We pulled up planks that actually looked charred. That comes from metal rust," said Bates.

Volunteers built a sealed cabinet to display an official Navy model of the cross-section of the forward number one gun turret. "It would be impossible to take tourists through the real thing," he said.

A large, meticulously accurate replica of the Missouri the way it looked 60 years ago graces the junior officer mess hall, one of the largest floor spaces onboard. Original dinnerware and place settings are on display, too.

Donations pay for the floating museum's upkeep, and that's why unpaid volunteers are sought. Bates said visitors want to see "everything and they have different reasons for visiting." They have guided tours because there's so much to see, especially for those who have never been aboard a ship.

During WWII, the Missouri used a pair of steam catapult-launched spotter seaplanes, not part of the Missouri today. After flying missions, the

floating aircraft approached the super structure where cranes lifted them back onto the deck.

The stern now has a permanent tent used for military and civilian events and ceremonies. Sailors now re-enlist or marry on the Missouri.

Volunteers renovated the enlisted chow hall. The chiefs' quarters and dining area are on the restoration agenda.

Photographs chronicle the ship's combat missions, crews, and presidential visits. President Truman and his family spent 11 days on the Missouri in 1947. A large wall map recounts the ship's wartime and peacetime voyages, including the first circumnavigation of the globe since President Teddy Roosevelt's "Great White Fleet" circled the earth in 1906 and 1907.

Some of the upgrading, updating and uplifting work is performed off the ship. "We have a souvenir shop on the dock and profits go toward maintenance expenses and tour guide salaries," said Bates. "We now have a 1940s vintage spotter plane on the pier and a flight simulator ride in a small quonset hut." The aircraft on display in the Missouri's imposing shadow was once in the military's inventory.

The Missouri is technically not an active duty vessel, but she flies a replica of the original Navy flag at her bow like ships of the line.

While very few people who visit the Missouri comment on her imperfections, the Missouri will never lose her original character. Her spirit may be represented by the aging veterans who walk her decks and remember fallen comrades, in the tourists who learn about her in history books and in the volunteers who, like Larry Bates, dedicate many hours of their free time to keep alive the gracious icon's memory, mission and heroism.

Sexual assault

An equal-opportunity crime

Fleet and Family Support Center

If you are four or 94, male or female, live in the city or the country, work outside the home or not, married or single – you can be a victim of sexual assault. While it is true that women are raped more than any other group, no one is immune; 10 percent of those treated for sexual assault are men. Rape is an act of violence, committed to humiliate and degrade. It is about power and control, not sex. Once thought to be a "woman's problem", rape affects everyone surrounding the survivor – friends, family, and the command – it is a community problem. Everyone connected to the survivor is a 'secondary victim'. The out dated belief that the survivor is in some way responsible for the assault gives us a false sense of security and lets us ignore a fact of rape – it is an equal opportunity crime – no one is immune. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of sexual assault, contact one of the following agencies for assistance: SAVI 24-hour crisis pager, 576-9634; Tripler Army Medical Center (ER), 433-6629; NCIS, 474-1218; or the SAVI office 471-9458, ext. 237.

Tips for controlling ant problems in Navy housing

Compiled by Karen Spangler

Assistant Editor

Ants are generally a nuisance all year round in Hawai'i, but they seem to be more abundant in homes during periods of drought or flooding. Extreme weather conditions will cause them to seek shelter and forage for food indoors.

Although there are some 40 to 45 species of ants in Hawai'i, not all of them are pests of homes and gardens. However, a few species can be troublesome when they invade kitchens, bathrooms and plants.

The first step in the attack is to try to treat the problem yourself. If any efforts prove unsuccessful and/or the problem seems to be out of control, the next step is to call the housing inspector. They will contact pest control and make the necessary arrangements.

One of the main things to remember is that ants generally travel along a trail to and from their nests. These trails are marked by a chemical substance (pheromone), secreted from a gland, which will attract only indi-

viduals of the same species. When this pheromone-laden trail is removed, foraging ants will wander aimlessly.

Usually the ants that invade a home can be traced back to an outdoor nesting site by following these trails. Nesting sites may be found beneath potted plants, under sidewalks, in hollow trees or in foliage.

The initial step in getting rid of these pests is to eliminate their food source. Keep your home as clean as possible, especially the kitchen and bathrooms. If there are toddlers and pets around, pick up after them. Even a bread crumb can satisfy the appetite of several ants. Be sure to store all food in tightly-sealed containers.

Once the ant trail is discovered, it is often possible to keep them out by tracing the trail back and sealing the entry point with caulking or applying a pesticide spray to only that area. The spray will disrupt their foraging trail and the indoor foragers will probably abandon their efforts. Spraying all visible ants is often unneeded.

Control measures will be more direct if it's

possible to follow the ant trail to the nesting site. After finding the trail of ants, follow them back to locate the nest. This may be marked by disturbed soil or by a hole with a lot of ant activity. Treat the nest site with an insecticide approved for outdoor ant control.

If the nest cannot be found indoors, poison bait may be a solution. Poison baits are a good alternative to other control methods for treating large areas or if it isn't known exactly where the nest is located. Ant bait traps may be obtained from the self-help store. However, if this method is chosen, it is absolutely necessary not to use insecticide sprays or dusts.

Without persistent treatment, ants may refuse to leave. Even with treatment, they may return at a later time. But if the pesky problem persists, housing inspectors can contact the appropriate people to obtain additional help.

Information provided by the University of Hawai'i, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and Cooperative Extension Service.

