



Navy dental
celebrates a birthday.
See story on page A-5.



Easter events
around Pearl Harbor
See story on page B-1.



Happy Birthday Chiefs!
April 1 the CPO community celebrated its 111th birthday. This year's theme: "One Mess, One Team, One Mission" focuses on the CPO motto of leading, developing, communicating and supporting today's Sailors to build the Navy of the future. This year's CPO Birthday Ball drew more than 500 CPO's, spouses and retired Chiefs.

Express yourself in HNN

Hello readers: We want to hear from you. Starting April 15, HNN will include an opinion/letter to the editor page and a sports page. The letter to the editor page will enable you to give feedback on military community-related issues. All comments should be in good taste. HNN reserves the right to decline publication of anything determined inappropriate. If you have burning questions about how or why things are being done in the community, but don't know who to ask to get information, just e-mail and we will do our best to find you an answer. Deadline for submissions is close of business Friday, a week prior to publication. Send your opinions/questions to: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com. Write "letter to the editor" in the subject line. For more information call 473-2888.

Calling all coaches and athletes

Hawaii Navy News would like to publish stats, game summaries, season standings, and photos of your adult and youth sports activities. Information about your teams - intramural, recreational and professional competitions will be considered for publication. Deadline for submissions is close of business Friday, a week prior to publication. The new HNN sports section begins with our April 15 issue. Send your sports information to hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com. Write "sports" in the subject line. For more information call 473-2888.

Navy dedicates new homes

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

The Navy displayed the newest homes in its housing inventory in Hawai'i when 140 homes were dedicated at ceremonies held March 25 on historic Ford Island. Constructed by Lend Lease Actus, LLC under a military construction (MILCON) project at a cost of \$35 million, the homes on Ford Island and an additional 30 homes on Radford Terrace represent what Navy officials say is their commitment to improve the quality of life for Sailors and their families.

"With each new military construction project that the Navy in Hawai'i has undertaken, we have been able to increase our inventory of replacement and revitalized homes for our Navy families - making it possible for them to live the American dream," said Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing for Navy Region Hawai'i. "In coming years, as the Navy in Hawai'i embarks on public-private venture, we will be able to provide even more quality housing for our Navy families. We are committed to the importance of quality of life and taking care of our people," added Ho.

Featuring such enhancements as metal framing, central air conditioning, garages, full-size washers and dryers, and modern kitchens, the modern Ford Island homes are three and four-bed-



U. S. Navy photo
Navy family members relax on their front lawn while movers deliver household goods to their new home on Ford Island.

room units built in duplex and four-unit arrangements.

Navy families in the homes also will have the benefit of additional amenities in the community, including landscaping, new roads and underground utilities. They can relax and enjoy their leisure time - in a neighborhood that offers a recreation area with a pavilion, basketball court, picnic area with gazebo, barbecue area, and super tot lot.

Rear Admiral Barry J. McCullough, Commander Navy Region

Hawai'i, explained that Hawai'i is now one of the most popular duty stations for Navy people. "It wasn't always that way. Talented Sailors often turned down duty here because Hawaii was viewed as a place with too many hardships for families," he said.

Admiral McCullough told the audience that last month Navy Times chose Pearl Harbor as the best Navy base in the world for quality of life as he listed some of the factors that have contributed to the honor. The capability to

house 100 percent of single Sailors in barracks housing, the opening of the largest Navy Exchange in the world and the first Navy Lodge in Hawai'i, and the easement of pet quarantine requirements have helped to make Pearl Harbor a more attractive duty station, according to the admiral.

"Perhaps the most dramatic change in Hawai'i has been in the area of family housing. We have spent nearly a half a billion dollars since 1996, revitalizing and

replacing 2,300 Navy family homes and will continue to do so under public-private venture," he said.

"Today's ceremony represents more than just the dedication of our new homes. It represents our commitment to the quality of service of our people - what the CNO calls 'covenant leadership.' The men and women of the United States Navy serve around the world, often risking their lives in dangerous far away places, to protect our nation and our freedom. Their sacrifices are many. They leave precious families behind and endure innumerable hardships to serve," stated McCullough.

But even as progress and change have come to Ford Island, every effort has been made to ensure that the housing project has been built to respect the historic character of the island. "The neighborhood has been built in such a way that preserves the unique history of Ford Island. Indeed, we are mindful of the sacrifices that many of our shipmates made here on Dec. 7, 1941," remarked Adm. McCullough. "In this historic place, we are working to preserve reminders of the important role that Ford Island has played in the history of our Navy and our nation," he added.

A special guest at the
▼ See HOUSING, A-10

Navy month of the military child

FFSC recognizes Navy child abuse prevention month

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

The Fleet and Family Support Center marked the beginning of Child Abuse prevention month and the month of the military child Wednesday. A proclamation signing ceremony was the first of many events planned for April to recognize children of military families.

"The main purpose ... is to increase the public's awareness of the problem of child abuse and neglect and to just let people know that there's ways to prevent it," said Chet J. Adessa, family advocacy program prevention and education specialist.

The ceremony included two representatives from the state legislature and Senator Brian Kanno, 19th Senatorial District, State of Hawai'i, who presented Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, with a certificate of recognition, congratulating the Navy on all the things they do to prevent child abuse and help military families.

"Child Abuse Prevention Month helps raise the awareness level of our Navy 'ohana' because it is a simple fact that a

child's quality of life starts at home," said McCullough. "Just one abused or neglected child is too many."

Local representatives from Prevent Child Abuse, Hawai'i and Child Protective Services attended the event along with Mrs. Hawaii 2003, Ms. Kauai, Ms. Island Oahu 2003 and Mrs. Hawaii International 2003 who volunteer their services during the month of April and throughout the year. Children from the child development centers and schools in the area also attended the event.

McCullough signed the proclamation in front of the children, which emphasized the Navy's commitment to the prevention of child abuse and recognizing Month of the Military Child.

"The proclamation that we have just signed today must be more than just a piece of paper," said McCullough. "It must become a living document that parents and family members can use to remember the responsibility they bear when bringing children into this world. Our children are indeed life's greatest treasure and they look to us for their future."

The ceremony kicked off a series of events this month, including classes devoted to discipline and building self-esteem, said Adessa. Prevent Child Abuse, Hawai'i is also holding a teddy bear drive at the Pearlridge Shopping Center on Saturday to help raise awareness.

McCullough supported another event in conjunction with child abuse this month by attaching a blue ribbon to his



Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Rear Adm. Barry McCullough and a boy from the Child Development Center tie a blue ribbon on to the antenna of McCullough's vehicle in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child.

car after the ceremony. The blue ribbon, which can be worn on clothing or placed on car antennas, signifies child abuse prevention, said Adessa. Those wishing to support child abuse prevention can obtain a ribbon at FFSC.

"I think it's important to set aside a whole month for these activities or events, but it shouldn't stop there," said Adessa. "It should be year round."

Month of the Military Child recognizes child in the military because they deal with aspects of military life, such as deployments or constant traveling, that other children might not have to deal with, said Adessa.

"It takes a special kind of parent to be a parent of a military child," he said.

▼ See PROCLAMATION, A-10

Pearl Harbor awards security officers



Photo by Devin Wright
DoD Security Officer Frank "Vern" Baptiste of Pearl Harbor security radios dispatch after a routine traffic stop. Baptiste, along with Officer Nelson New and Officer Ali Muslim, was awarded a pin for 30 years of dedicated service to Navy Region Hawai'i at a ceremony March 24.

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

Pearl Harbor Security Department honored three Department of Defense security officers, during an award ceremony March 24.

The officers were awarded pins for a combined 85 years of service.

"Being recognized by the security department as DoD employees is great for morale," said Capt. Brain Boyman, supervisory police officer for Pearl Harbor Security. "not just for the guys who earned this award, but for all of the DoD officers. These guys have dealt with constant changes and adapted to change. They hung in there and for that they should be recognized."

For Security Officer Nelson New, the job is something he was destined to do. "It's a calling," said New. "I thought about other jobs, but I've been carrying a gun as a security officer in one form or

another since I was 18. I worked in New Hampshire for awhile as a police officer, but I got tired of shoveling snow out of my driveway so I moved back to Hawai'i and vowed never to wear another gun or uniform again. However, here I am. I made a liar out of myself," New admitted. "I heard the calling and now have 35 years of service. I wouldn't change it."

Security Officer Frank "Vern" Baptiste, who has been a government employee for 30 years, said it's the love of the job that has made the career enjoyable.

"I never thought I'd be in Pearl Harbor for so many years," said Baptiste. "I came into this field because I believe in it. We certainly haven't gotten rich off this job, but that's not why we do it. It's just something that's in you. If it weren't, I'd have been out long ago," confessed Baptiste.

Control Industrial Sergeant Ali Muslim of Naval Shipyard Pearl Harbor, who has 20 years with the federal govern-

▼ See CENTER, A-10

Robbery in Moanalua Shopping Center

An armed robbery occurred Wednesday at a check-cashing establishment in the Moanalua Shopping Center.

Lt. j.g. Erin Bailey, a Navy Spokesperson said military police responded to the scene shortly after 9:50 a.m. There were no injuries.

Witnesses say the suspect, a 20-30 year old male Caucasian with blonde curly hair, had a baseball cap, a long sleeve blue shirt and blue jeans. He was seen leaving the area driving a white car. Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) is investigating.

Moanalua Shopping Center is on Navy property but is open to the general public.

Housing: Pearl Harbor's newest houses now open

Continued from A-1

ceremony was Jean Clarey, widow of Admiral Bernard "Chick" Clarey in whose memory the Admiral Clarey Bridge to Ford Island was dedicated in April 1998. Admiral Clarey served a 39-year naval career, which included five tours of duty in Hawai'i, and retired in 1973 as Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) presented Lend Lease Actus, LLC with a rebate check in the amount of \$203,816 for the 140 homes on Ford Island and the 30 homes at Radford Terrace.

The award recognizes energy conservation initiatives implemented in the project by Lend Lease and the Navy. In addition to the solar hot water heating systems, energy efficient measures in the homes include high-efficiency air conditioning, compact fluorescent lights and occupancy sensors.

Mary Ellen Nordyke-Grace, director of energy initiatives at HECO, presented the rebate check. "This is the largest demand side management rebate check to date for fiscal year 2004," said Nordyke-Grace and noted that rebates for Navy projects since 1996 have totaled \$2.5 million.



U. S. Navy photo
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Rear Adm. Barry McCullough thanks Hawaiian priest Kahu David Kaupu for his blessing and traditional lei untying at the Ford Island housing dedication ceremony.

"It is particularly exciting for HECO to see the tangible results of a partnership with the Navy and Actus that continues the Navy's leadership in solar water heating systems and energy efficient technologies, such as lighting, air conditioning and occupancy sensors," continued Nordyke-Grace.

"These homes represent a showcase model of what can be done," she said. She added that the Navy in Hawaii has been a leading contributor to the Department of Energy Million Solar Roofs Initiative.

"Other developers can similarly implement these measures for the benefit of the serv-

ices, the Soldiers and Sailors and families and our Hawaii environment," noted Nordyke-Grace. "These measures will help the welfare of the Sailor and their families by conserving energy, lowering their electric bills, and furthering their hard-earned allowance," she stated. "Above all, these energy-saving technologies contribute to our national goals and the welfare of our state and economy," she said. According to Nordyke-Grace, the Ford Island housing project will result in an estimated 1,900 barrels of oil saved per year and over 9,500 barrels saved over five years.

Admiral McCullough commented on the Navy's efforts in including renewable energy in the Ford Island project. "As our Navy families enjoy comfortable homes with modern amenities, they can do so while consuming less energy. The Navy reaps the benefits in renewable energy credit and a cost credit in the contract. Indeed, energy conservation is vital and is a win-win situation for all of us," he said.

Kahu David Kaupu, retired chaplain of Kamehameha Schools and kapu emeritus of Kaumakapili Church, offered a Hawaiian blessing for the new

homes. Kahu Kaupu discussed the traditions of the maile lei and its significance in special events. As a light shower of rain fell from the partially overcast skies, Kahu Kaupu told the audience that when the heavens weep, the earth is replenished.

The Ford Island MILCON project is the last of Hawaii's Navy family housing developments to be funded through Congressionally-appropriated military construction funds. Future Navy housing on Oahu will be built under public-private venture, a partnership in which developers fund construction costs and then lease the homes back to Navy families for an amount equivalent to their housing allowances for a private rental.

"Just as our men and women in uniform fulfill their commitment to make personal sacrifices in order to help preserve our nation's security, we fulfill our commitment to them by giving them the quality of service that they have earned," said Rear Admiral McCullough. "That includes providing modern, quality homes for our Sailors and their families. That is the least we can do for them for the sacrifices they make for our nation," he concluded.

Commentary

For Your Security and Safety

Karen S. Spangler, Assistant Editor

karen.spangler@navy.mil

Time for a new vehicle decal?

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

state of Hawai'i safety inspection.

Is your vehicle decal beginning to look faded or worn, difficult to read? Even if your vehicle decal hasn't expired, it might be necessary to make a trip to the Pass and ID office to replace it.

Base decals are only valid for a maximum of 12 months from the month of issue. However, drivers who were issued a three-year decal before the new policy went into effect were "grandfathered" into the program and permitted to keep their decals until they expire. When they replace the three-year decal, they will be given a one-year decal.

Vehicle decals expire in the month of the safety inspection for your vehicle. But any time that your decal is worn, "cooked" by the intense Hawaiian sun and/or difficult to read, it needs to be replaced.

To obtain either a new decal or re-issue of your current decal, drivers must present valid documents to personnel at the Navy Region Pass and ID office just outside the Nimitz Gate. Those documents include: valid proof of automobile insurance, valid driver's license, valid vehicle registration certificate/license plate decal and a valid

The Pass and ID office is open from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Peak times are between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. and between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Vehicles must be in the Pass and ID parking lot to receive a decal, whether new or re-issued. Personnel from the Pass and ID office will witness the proper placement of the decal/numerals on the windshield of the driver's vehicle.

Remember that the decal is valid only for the vehicle for which it is issued. When you sell or trade your car, it is your responsibility to remove the decal and deliver it to the Pass and ID office.

For more information, call the Navy Region Pass and ID office at 471-2131.

If you have a security or safety question or concern, please send us an email or a fax and we'll obtain an answer.

You can email your questions or comments to: hnneditor@hawaii.navy.mil. Or fax us at 473-2876. Please put the words "security column" in your subject line and that will help us to more quickly route it to the appropriate point of contact.

Hawai'i Navy News

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i
Rear Adm. Barry McCullough
Chief of Staff - Capt. Ronald R. Cox
Public Affairs Officer - Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Davis
Deputy Public Affairs Officer - Agnes Tauyan
Public Affairs LCPO/Managing Editor
JOC(SW) Joe Kane
News Editor - JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Features Editor - JO1 Jim Williams
Assistant Editor - Karen Spangler
Staff Writer - JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer - JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Technical Adviser - Joe Novotny
Layout/Design - Angie Batula
Layout/Design - Tony Verceluz

Hawai'i Navy News is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com World Wide Web address: www.hnn.navy.mil.

This civilian enterprise newspa-

per is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawai'i. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander,

Navy Region Hawai'i or the Honolulu Advertiser.

Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Hawai'i Navy News is delivered weekly to Navy housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 538-NEWS (538-6397) if they wish to discontinue home delivery.

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

Phone: (808) 473-2888

Email: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

Hawai'i Navy News

Commissaries sell groceries at cost

Bonnie Powell
DeCA Public Affairs

No pain, no gain is a common expression. Bargain hunters go from grocery store to grocery store seeking the best buys, but they may also end up paying more for other items that aren't on sale. A lot of pain, but not much gain. Why do all that when DeCA commissaries sell groceries at cost, saving authorized customers an average of 30 percent or more over commercial grocery prices?

Commercial stores are profit-motivated. They can offer popular items at below cost to get customers in their store – and make it up on other items that are priced much higher. There's nothing wrong with that and it has a name: loss leader.

That's how the commercial businesses work. "But commissaries are a benefit, not a business, and sometimes people lose sight of that," said Maj. Gen. Mike Wiedemer, director of the Defense Commissary Agency. "It's true we operate in a businesslike fashion, but our sole reason for being here is to deliver the benefit. Our cost is your cost."

The prices paid by commissary customers for grocery items equals the government's cost for those items. "Because we sell at cost and the U.S. government covers the expenses associated with providing the benefit, that allows us to achieve an overall average customer savings of 30 percent or more over commercial grocery stores," Wiedemer said.

That's a benefit that is now worth about \$2,700 a year to a military family of four that shops regularly at a commissary. Put simply, "We're here to save military families as much as we can – not make money," said Wiedemer.

Like any commercial grocery store, commissaries also have unadvertised "sales" on hundreds of products on any given day, according to Scott Simpson, chief operating officer at DeCA. "One of the many reasons we don't have a 'frequent shopper' card is simply that everything we sell is already at cost. If a manufacturer offers us a special sale, we pass it on. Your military ID is the only 'special card'



Photo by J0SN Ryan C. McGinley

Machinest Mate 2nd Class Chad Trimble shops for food items at the Pearl Harbor Commissary. The commissary can save shoppers almost 30 percent off commercial grocery stores. The savings could add up to \$2,700 in savings per year for a military family of four who shops regularly at the commissary.

you need," he said. "If an item is on sale, it's on sale for every authorized shopper who walks into the store."

Sometimes getting sales information to customers about what's on sale at the commissary is difficult. Commissaries are not allowed to advertise product prices. But private vendors and manufacturers doing business in the commissary system can, and increasingly do, advertise products and prices. Many installation newspapers now carry monthly commissary shopping circulars; other vendors distribute sales information direct to the doorways of military families in housing areas. Still more hand out circulars and coupons at the door of the local commissary.

Customers can also find out what's on sale at their local commissary by accessing the savings aisle in the shopping section of DeCA's Web site: <http://www.commissaries.com>. Prices aren't listed, but it's a safe bet that if the items are on sale, the prices are going to be below average commissary prices and well below commercial grocery store prices.

Commissary customers get an additional break by not paying any sales tax when shopping at the commissary. In some locations, that can amount to sizeable savings.

There is one cost borne by customers. A five-percent sur-

charge, mandated by Congress, is added at the register on the total grocery bill before coupons are deducted. "We're frequently asked about the surcharge because people feel like that's part of the cost of the groceries or some sort of profit," said Wiedemer. "But the surcharge funds have nothing to do with making a profit. The five-percent surcharge goes right back into the military system to fund the building of new commissaries and the improvement of existing stores for our customers," he said.

Commissary customer satisfaction surveys consistently rank the commissary as the number one military benefit, and military quality of life surveys consistently rank commissaries among the top two benefits, said Wiedemer. "But yet, there still seems to be a lack of realization that at the heart of their benefit is the ability to buy groceries at cost."

"Our intention is to spread the word and make sure the commissary benefit is being fully used by active duty, Guard and Reserve, and retired military families," he said. "It simply doesn't make sense for anyone to spend valuable time and gas running all over town to save on a few items when shopping regularly at the commissary can result in savings of 30 percent or more."

Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor rated best for quality patient care

Bruce Omura
Public Affairs Officer
Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor

Making sure Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor provides its beneficiaries with the highest quality health care in a timely and efficient manner has always been the number one priority, according to the command's policy. The philosophy of "just see the patient," the commitment to timeliness and quality, was reaffirmed when the command and its behavioral health program received a resounding passing score during the recent health care accreditation survey and medical inspection March 9-17.

"This was one of the most productive times that IG has had. Good stuff will result from this visit for naval medicine," said Rear Adm. Steven E. Hart, Navy Medical inspector general.

The survey, conducted by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) headquartered in Chicago, Ill., evaluates 10,000 health care organizations based on JCAHO developed, state-of-the-art, professionally-based standards and evaluates the compliance of health care organizations against these measurements. The inspection by the medical inspector general (MEDIG), headquartered in Washington, D. C. at the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, assesses the naval medical commands' effectiveness and efficiency in support of naval medicine's mission and coordinates, reviews and reports with JC-

AHO on behalf of the Navy Surgeon General. What does this mean to beneficiaries? Accreditation by the JCAHO and the positive comments by MEDIG are recognized worldwide as symbols for quality that an organization meets or exceeds the highest levels of patient care possible. According to Capt. Gary W. Zuckerman, the deputy medical inspector general, "This organization shows what good people doing good things can accomplish."

JCAHO's and MEDIG's standards address an organization's level of performance in all key patient care and satisfaction areas. These standards focus not simply on what an organization has, but what it actually does. The performance standards set forth by the Joint Commission and MEDIG for healthcare organizations directly affects the quality of care that Pearl Harbor's clinic provides its beneficiaries.

"There is no longer a score given by JCAHO or MEDIG," said Capt. Joseph L. Moore, commanding officer, NMCLPH. "But the JCAHO inspector stated that we did better than our last JCAHO inspection (previously scored by JCAHO at 95 percent) in October 2000. That's a tribute to our hard working command members commitment to continued improvement."

He commented that "customers" can rest assured that Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor will not be satisfied with these results, but will continue to work on improving the level of health care they provide to their highly-valued customers.

PROCLAMATION: Pearl Harbor focuses on child abuse issues

Continued from A-1

Adessa said parents who stick together and continue communication with their children fare better. It's important during times of deployment that children communicate with parents who might be far away by email, telephone, regular mail and other means of communication.

The Navy also offers ombudsman support for families, said Adessa. Ombudsmen are key resources for family members, particularly during deployments. They can facilitate the flow of information be-

tween command and family members.

A military child also deals with the pressure of moving every three or four years. Adessa recommends keeping a consistent routine with the child that involves foods, games and stories to which the child has become accustomed.

"They need to have that kind of consistency or connection ... to ease the transition," he said.

Child Abuse Prevention Month aims to bring awareness of the problem through a proactive approach, said Adessa.

"A lot of people just don't realize how child abuse and neglect impacts our future heroes and children that are going to be taking our place one of these days," he said.

To learn more about events happening this month or for more information, contact FF-SC at 473-4222.

"The goal is to bring to the forefront that child abuse is a national problem," said Adessa. "Do what you can to help prevent child abuse ... [and] don't be afraid to seek help. The help is confidential," he said.

Dental technicians' 56th anniversary celebrates the future



Ellen Maurer
Bureau of Medicine and
Surgery Public Affairs

Dental technicians (DT) will celebrate their 56th anniversary April 2, marking more than five decades of dental health care assistance to dentists serving the Navy and Marine Corps fleet and family members.

This anniversary not only reflects the dental community's history, but also recognizes significant changes to the enlisted career field's future, with a potential merger between DTs and hospital corpsmen (HM) on the horizon.

"As we celebrate this year's dental technician birthday, we look toward a changing naval medicine force ready to meet the needs of our Navy," said Force Master Chief (SW/AW) Jacqueline DiRosa, director of medical department enlisted personnel at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

(BUMED). "Our future includes an increase to rapid and ready response by ensuring all enlisted personnel have the same base line of training. We're improving our flexibility in the utilization of all enlisted manpower and career opportunities for our Sailors."

There are nearly 3,000 DTs serving a variety of "chairside" and administrative duties. Some are qualified in dental prosthetics (making and fitting artificial teeth), dental X-ray, clinical laboratory and pharmacy procedures, as well as maintenance and repair of dental equipment.

DTs have seven different sub-specialty C-schools. If a merger occurs, these opportunities would expand to include 40 schools currently offered to HMs. This would increase the DT/HM sub-specialty choices to 47 schools, according to BUMED Dental Technician Career Planner, Master Chief Dental Technician Barbara Moody.

"The Navy will always need dental technicians, regardless of what rating they belong to," said Moody. "Nothing will affect the level of care we provide to beneficiaries because we'll still have the same number of overall enlisted medical personnel. A merger is in line with force health protection because it will help us increase the number of Sailors versatile enough to serve - anywhere - the medical and dental needs of both the warfighter and retiree."

The DT/HM merger will be reviewed this year. If approved, the transition will occur over the next three to five years, possibly making this year's dental technician anniversary one of its last.

"We are proud of our history. In fact, the dental technician rating originally came from the corpsman rating. So, really, we're just going back to our roots," said Moody. "Overall, we're only enriching naval medicine history."

Photo by J01 Jim Williams
Cmdr. Linda Niemeyer, department head of the comprehensive dental department, works on a patient at the Naval Dental Center Pearl Harbor.

2003 Newman's Own awards search offers community groups \$50K in grants

American Forces Press Service

Volunteer community organizations have until April 30 to enter the fourth annual Newman's Own Award for Military Community Excellence competition for a share of \$50,000 in grants.

The contest is co-sponsored by the Newman's Own Co., the Fisher House organization and the Military Times Media Group. First prize of a \$10,000 grant goes to the group with the most innovative plan to improve the quality of life for military families and their communities.

Contest judges allocate the remaining \$40,000 in grants to other organizations based on programs that "capture the spirit of volunteerism," according to a Fisher House spokesman. He also said organizations should primarily be those with volunteers rather than paid professional staffs, such as PTAs, student classes, the boy scouts and girl scouts, and spouses' clubs that need financial aid for projects supporting the military community.

Newman's Own is the food company started by actor Paul Newman, who has donated company profits, \$125 million since 1982, to charities and educational causes. Fisher House operates nearly three dozen "homes away from home" near major military medical facilities worldwide to help family members tending to loved ones receiving treatment. The Military Times Media Group runs the military and federal Times newspapers.

For specific eligibility and entry rules, visit the Fisher House Web site at www.fisherhouse.org or call (888) 294-8560.

Navy News asks: *What is your favorite MWR activity?*



FC3 Class Shane Reaves
USS Port Royal

The travel and ticket office because you can go pretty much anywhere you want to.



GSE1 Matthew Danforth
USS O'Kane

My favorite MWR activity is working out at Bloch Arena.



OS1 Marcus Allen
USS O'Kane

Working out at Bloch Arena and the sporting events.



Master Sgt. Sergio Jaquez
Tripler Army Medical Center.

My favorite activity is weightlifting and the master's soccer league.



Airman 1st Class Jason Villanueva
Hickam AFB, Air Mobility

My favorite has got to be the Bearfoot Cruise because you're out in the middle of the water; it's calm.

SECURITY:

Continued from A-1

ment, said he feels lucky he has made it this far.

"Miracles do happen," said Muslim. "People come and go. Some come, some go. Some quit and some die, so I feel fortunate to have made it this far and still going."

Some of the changes Muslim has seen in his career have come in the last six months.

"There is better cohesiveness among the military and civilian workers in terms of working together," said Muslim. "The work environment is really getting better and better."

VP-47 reaches 'hump day' milestone

Lt. Adam Johnston
VP-47 Public Affairs Officer

The Golden Swordsmen of Patrol Squadron 47 celebrated the midpoint of their deployment on March 8. The familiar milestone gave a chance for all of the "Golden Swordsmen" to take some much needed rest and relaxation in honor of the "over the hump" point, a day observing that time when there are fewer days of the six-month deployment remaining than have already passed. The Swordsmen honored the day in each of the squadron's deployment locations with a dinner and talent show in Diego Garcia and a squadron picnic in the Middle Eastern kingdom of Bahrain.

"It was a great event to celebrate the success of the first three months, but also a time to look ahead and focus on future operations," noted Cmdr. Thomas McGovern, executive officer of VP-47. "It was impressive to see the hidden talents of the command and a time when the squadron really needed to enjoy themselves." McGovern emphasized that even when the pace of deployment slows, members of the

command have to set specific goals to improve themselves. For the men and women of the command, their interests have pushed them toward personal athletic or intellectual endeavors and also into professional pursuits such as advancement or warfare qualification. The diverse opportunities have been one of the great benefits of this deployment and the Golden Swordsmen are taking full advantage, according to McGovern.

Many personnel in Diego Garcia cited the over-the-hump party itself as the highlight. Sailors were treated to a dinner organized by the command services department under Senior Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic (AW) Enrique Delacruz, as well as a slide show produced by AM1(AW) Larry Cummins and Photographer's Mate 2nd Class (AW/SW) Jennifer Bailey. The evening was capped off by a talent show consisting solely of acts by members of the squadron. The show was a particularly popular event and featured both solo and group musical acts, as well as a catchy rhythm and dance routine.

In Bahrain, VP-47 Sailors spent

their afternoon in the base's picnic area enjoying an authentic Middle Eastern cuisine complete with shwar-

ma, tempura chicken and American hot dogs. The event was organized by PH2 Lisa Aman and Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Ilana McCall. The detachment was entertained with a sumo wrestling competition sponsored by MWR. Participants faced off and attempted to knock each other down in bulky and very cumbersome, padded sumo costumes. "I haven't laughed that hard in a long time," stated Lt. Cmdr. Corey Ray as he watched Lt. Cmdr. Mark Knollmueller topple Lt. j.g. Hamish Kirkland three consecutive times. The evening's activities included a raffle; an X-Box and digital camera were won by AM1(AW) Herman Alcantara and Aviation Machinist Mate 3rd Class Michael Henderson, respectively. Others enjoyed beach volleyball, but most

just relaxed in the shade with their shipmates and shared stories of families back home in Hawai'i.

"This party is a great opportunity to celebrate the completion of the first half of deployment and to reflect on our Sailors' superb contributions to our squadron, our Navy and our nation," noted Cmdr. Jay Lisenby, commanding officer of VP-47.

For Sailors and airmen like AM3 Lonny Scott and AM1(AW) Octavio Stewart, the experiences of deployment are nothing new. Yet each deployment is different.

"I can't compare past deployments to this one," observed Stewart, who has witnessed many of his peers using the time to focus on education and advancement. "Anybody complaining about this [place], they have no idea what they're missing," said Stewart. Nonetheless, the party provided a break in the daily grind and both air-

men pointed to the talent show as the high point of the event. "[This party] had more for us to see and do. It allowed us to participate in the talent show," noted Scott. "In the future, do the same thing again," he encouraged.

Junior Sailors such as Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 3rd Class (NAC) Carl Bartosh, originally of Rockville, Texas, have found that this deployment has matched his expectations. "I expected to be working a lot more, but even though we don't have a lot of flights, I'm getting a lot of training done," noted Bartosh.

Since departing their homeport in Kaneohe, Hawai'i in late November 2003, the Golden Swordsmen have logged over 1,300 flight hours, including 947 hours in missions supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and the global war on terrorism. In the course of these operations, crews have visited the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Djibouti, Singapore and Australia. The squadron will return to its homeport in Hawai'i this summer.

(Lt. Cmdr. Pat McCormick and Lt. j.g. Al Perez contributed to this story.)

"Anybody complaining about this [place], they have no idea what they're missing..."

AM1(AW) Octavio Stewart

Constant vigilance



U. S. Navy photo
Master-at-Arms Seaman Ray Cowan, attached to Naval Station Pearl Harbor Security, mans the M-60 machine gun aboard a 28-foot Sea Ark patrol boat in the West Loch area of Pearl Harbor. The heavily-armed security patrol boats keep a constant vigil in all areas of Pearl Harbor against a variety of threats, and also escort arriving and departing ships and submarines.

Future Navy leadership begins with innovation and more preparation

JO3 Andrew Stamper

Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs

Sailors performing leadership roles above their pay grade are not uncommon. To make sure these Sailors get the right leadership training at the right time, the Revolution in Navy Training's Center for Naval Leadership (CNL) is now aligning leadership training to the job Sailors perform and not to their rank.

The Leadership Development Program (LDP) now allows all Sailors E-3 and above, and officially assigned to an organizational leadership position, to participate in the development of professional leadership.

"Previously, formal leadership training (then the PO2 leadership training course) was not available to these first line leaders," said Capt. Douglas McDonald, CNL commanding officer. "We are implementing a new enlisted leadership development program that ties the right training to the right Sailor at the right time ... no matter what their rank is. Not having leadership training tied to rank will allow all Sailors to capitalize on the opportunities along the Leadership Continuum at the most appropriate times throughout their careers," he added.

The NAVADMIN 069/04, released March 24, describes the new enlisted leadership development programs and identifies the attendance policy and implementation details.

The first level of this sequential, progressive LDP is the First Line Leadership Development Program (FLLDP), which replaces the Petty Officer 2nd Class Leadership Training Continuum (LTC). This program is designed for all Sailors between E-3 and E-5 who are responsible for daily direction of subordinates, as seamen and petty officers are often put in these important positions.

The Primary Leadership Development Program (PLDP) is the second level of the new LDP, to replace the Petty Officer First Class LTC. It is designed for E-5 and E-6 Sailors who are assigned the divisional responsibilities of a leading petty officer.

The Advanced Leadership Development Program (ALDP) is the third level of LDP and is intended for first class petty officers and chiefs who are assigned the administration, supervision and training responsibilities of a divisional or departmental leading chief petty officer. This program replaces the Chief Petty Officer LTC.

Two additional programs, the Command Leadership Development Program (CLDP) for E-8/E-9 and the Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP) for FLTCM, CNOCM, etc., are currently under development by the Center for Naval Leadership.

In view of the LDP's linkage to leadership positions vice pay grades, the NAVADMIN further identifies changes in LDP completion requirements. Successful completion of the LDP is no longer required for participation in the first class petty officer advancement examinations or to be eligible for the E-8 selection boards. However, for E-6 personnel, the PLDP, or the former PO1 LTC, remains a requirement to participate in the E-7 advancement exam.

"These changes should not be interpreted as dropping the requirement for LDP completion. The skills developed and knowledge gained through timely completion of the appropriate LDP for the assigned leadership position is vital for our Sailors to be properly equipped for their leadership roles," said McDonald. "LDP completion will be documented in the Sailor's electronic training jacket and 5 Vector Model (when active)."

The NAVADMIN further states that LDP completion will have career, assignment and detailing implications.

"Our goal is to set our Sailors up for success by providing LDPs that will develop the knowledge, skills and abilities required to maximize their leadership potential throughout their careers," said CNL Command Master Chief Norman Wood. "This change is good for Sailors because it allows them the flexibility to receive training and serve in positions they may not have had an opportunity to serve in before."

Navy leadership development programs are offered at CNL learning sites (formerly naval leader training units) at Coronado, Lemoore and Ventura County, Calif.; Little Creek, Va.; Ingleside, Texas; Naval District Washington, Washington, D.C.; Bangor and Whidbey Island, Wash.; Great Lakes, Ill.; Newport, R.I.; Groton, Conn.; Kings Bay, Ga.; Mayport and Pensacola, Fla.; Sigonella, Sicily; Rota, Spain; Yokosuka, Japan; and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Additionally, FLLDP, PLDP and ALDP are offered at 78 sites world wide through CNL's mobile training teams (MTT).

To learn more about the Leadership Continuum and to access online leadership learning resources, visit the Center for Naval Leadership page on Navy Knowledge Online at www.nko.navy.mil

USS Russell earns Aegis BMD Excellence Award

ENS Katie Hulse

USS Russell Public Affairs

On March 19, USS Russell (DDG 59) was presented with the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Excellence Award for its role in developing the Navy's ballistic missile defense capability. While Russell was visiting San Diego in preparation for Event Frontier Tracker, a BMD mission off the coast of California, Capt. Kenyon Hiser presented the award on behalf of Rear Adm. Kate Paige, program director of Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense.

In recent months, Russell pioneered the "long range surveillance and track" capability that provides early warning track data by satellite link to afloat and ground-based missile interceptor battle management sites. In Flight Mission 6 (FM-6), Russell's successful detection, tracking and cueing of a ballistic missile in space supported a direct hit at a supersonic speed by an SM-3 fired by USS Lake Erie (CG 70). Adm. Michael Mullen, vice chief of naval operations, called the results "one of the most impressive demonstrations of combat capability ever seen."

The success of FM-6 was the result of the superb teamwork and individual excellence of Russell's crew. Russell Sailors spent thousands of hours installing and testing complex equipment and training for the missions. Petty officers Johnny McGowan, Richard Abowd and



U.S. Navy photo
The guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59), homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, was presented with the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense Excellence Award for its role in developing BMD capability.

Ryan Hendrickson of fire control division earned Navy Achievement Medals for their flawless execution and exemplary performance.

The Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense system transforms the

superb fleet air defense capabilities of the SPY-1 radar into a powerful system capable of tracking supersonic missiles in space. During recent operations, Russell's crew set a new fleet record for the longest-

range radar tracking in Aegis history. The capability demonstrated by Russell is a key element of President Bush's directive to deploy an initial ballistic missile defensive capability by the end of 2004.

Reuben James chief receives commission

ENS Anne Gibbon

Reuben James Public Affairs

Thirteen years ago, Chief Operations Specialist (SW) Shannon Fallon first raised his hand to enlist. He has since tried to guide the lives of enlisted Sailors while working with the officers assigned to his work areas. On March 13, he raised his right hand a second time, but this time to take a different oath. After rising through the enlisted ranks to earn the anchors of a chief petty officer, Fallon chose to accept a commission to the rank of ensign.

"My goal is to help every Sailor that I work with in recognizing their potential and improving the quality of their lives," said newly-commissioned ENS Fallon about his leadership philosophy. "I have never felt that Sailors followed me because of my rank or title. I feel they followed me because I am able to influence their thinking by developing a relationship with them and earning their trust," said Fallon.

Throughout his career, Fallon said he feels he has risen to the challenges outlined by the Secretary of Defense Don-

ald Rumsfeld in a speech given last year to newly-commissioned ensigns: "Challenge to do more than simply navigate through all the changes that you will face - the challenge to help shape the chaos."

Throughout this past year, Fallon served aboard the USS Reuben James (FFG 57), dedicating himself to guiding the Sailors working for him. His division, the second largest on the ship, maintained an 80 percent advancement rate and retained 90 percent of its Sailors. He also served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, as well as during a compressed training cycle and a subsequent counter-drug operations deployment.

"I chose a commission because I have a vision of leadership and influence that can best be fulfilled by the opportunity to access a broader number of the crew," said Fallon. "My role in the wardroom will be to give my best effort in the accomplishment of all missions, develop our future leaders, enhance the quality of life of those around me, and act in a way that honors the core values of our Navy."

SHIPMAIN and the Sea Power 21 Vision

JOC Milinda D. Jensen
Naval Sea Systems Command
Public Affairs

Ship maintenance (SHIPMAIN) is one of the newest initiatives fleet Sailors are putting into practice. It is a 'best business' practice that is changing the culture of getting ship work completed in a one-step process.

"Innovative programs like SHIPMAIN and the Naval Aviation Readiness Integrated Improvement Program (NAVRRIIP) helped develop and share best practices, streamline maintenance planning and improved performance goals in shipyards, depots and intermediate maintenance activities (IMA)," said Adm. Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), in his CNO Guidance for 2004 (www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/cno/clark-guidance2004.html).

"As we move more and more towards the 'smart ship' design and operations, the crew size is significantly reduced. This means that more of the maintenance, above and beyond preventive maintenance schedule (PMS), is performed by outside activities such as ship intermediate maintenance activities (SIMA), shipyards and private contractors. The implementation of the SHIPMAIN program ensures that the right group is attached to the right job from the very beginning, thereby expediting its completion," explained Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SW) Jeffery A.

Gray, SIMA command master chief, Norfolk, Va.

SHIPMAIN provides the maximum benefit per maintenance dollar by a one-step process, eliminating time lags, prioritizing ship jobs and empowering surface ship Sailors in their ship's maintenance decisions.

Each ship has in place a maintenance team consisting of a ship's port engineer, members of SIMA, ship repair supervisor (SUPSHIP), Fleet Training Support Center (FTSC) personnel and the ship's representative. These teams meet twice a week, in the same location, at the same time to discuss the same job. The ship's representative takes the lead on deciding priority jobs for the ship. This team approach is producing a mindset change and encouraging best business practices.

"SIMA now has more time to plan and execute the availabilities within the prescribed dates, saving thousands of premium dollars," explained Senior Chief Hull Maintenance Technician (SW) Paul Corey, senior project manager SIMA Norfolk, Va. "SHIPMAIN frees up fleet Sailors to concentrate on other upkeep jobs and training because

the repair activity is doing more of the repair jobs."

"The process for getting a 2Kilo, Navy paperwork to assign repair work, from the ship to the maintenance activity is now more streamlined and more efficient. There seems to be fewer duplicate job orders and less items sent that are ship's force (SF) capable," said Chief Hull Maintenance Technician Chris Perry, SIMA Norfolk project manager.

Under the Navy's strategic plan, Sea Power 21 requires the capabilities of a 375-ship Navy to accomplish its missions. SHIPMAIN is contributing to the fu-

ture of a 375-ship Navy by saving time, labor and dollars - dollars that can be recapitalized into future assets. SHIPMAIN is also training Sailors and providing them opportunities to be good stewards of the scarce government resources entrusted to them. Maintenance jobs that used to take weeks before a Sailor actually turned a screw now have a screening turnaround time of 48-72 hours.

Sea Power 21 provides our nation with widely-dispersed combat power from platforms possessing unprecedented war-fighting capabilities. The global environment and our defense strategy call for a military with the ability to respond swiftly to a broad range of global missions and homeland defense against terrorist threats. To meet these demands, ships must be deployable and surge ready when needed.

“As we move more and more towards the ‘smart ship’ design and operations, the crew size is significantly reduced...”

MMC(SW) Jeffery A. Gray
SIMA command master chief, Norfolk, Va.