



Wahiawa Botanical Garden is a 'tropical jewel'

A calathea plant (also known as a prayer plant) with variegated green striations is one of the plants that thrives at Wahiawa Botanical Garden. If the leaves of the plant have 10 striations, it is also referred to as the Ten Commandments.

**Story and photo by
Karen S. Spangler**
Assistant Editor

The myriad of activities that abound in Hawai'i offer a wealth of fun and adventure – water activities, extreme sports, local attractions. For those who want to relax, just take some time to enjoy a leisurely stroll, and smell the flowers – literally – a visit to one of Hawai'i's beautiful botanical gardens offers ample opportunities.

Five botanical gardens are maintained and operated by the City and County of Honolulu. Wahiawa Botanical Gardens, described as the "tropical jewel" of Honolulu Botanical Gardens, is the northernmost of the botanical gardens on Oahu. Located in a high elevation in central Oahu, just outside Wahiawa town, Wahiawa Botanical Gardens is a 27-acre complex devoted to native plants, tree ferns and Hawaiian palms. Plants that require a cool and moist environment thrive there in a setting of a tropical rain forest.

The land that is the site for the botanical garden originally belonged to Hawaiian kings and royalty – the last of such royalty was Queen Liliuokalani, the last queen of the Hawaiian Islands. As the Hawaiian royalty made the trek from Honolulu to their summer home in Waialua on Oahu's North Shore, they passed through Wahiawa.

Wahiawa was also the site of the first pineapple cannery on Oahu and the pineapple industry

founder, James D. Dole, was a resident of Wahiawa. Trucks from the companies drove through the ravines on the land that is now part of the botanical garden.

In the 1920s, the Hawai'i Sugar Planters' Association leased the land from the state as a site for experimental tree planting. They planted trees that were native to the islands and that would grow quickly, including sandalwood (which were sold for income) and pili grass (used to build the Hawaiian huts). But later, trees from all over the world – including the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia, Japan and South Pacific Islands – were planted on the land in an effort to see what would retain water and grow the fastest. Most of the large trees still growing in the garden date from that decade.

In 1950, the state turned the land over to the city and county of Honolulu. Wahiawa Botanical Gardens opened its doors to visitors in 1957.

The garden is divided into two major areas. Wide, curving walkways wind among bamboo, gigantic ficus trees and palms on the garden's upper terrace. Benches are located conveniently along the

walkways which are accessible to wheelchairs, walkers and strollers.

Air plants and a variety of other plants and ferns cover the trunks and branches of the trees and some flowering plants, such as orchids, create bright splashes of colors on the limbs. The air is fragrant with the scent of spices in the botanical garden where the allspice, nutmeg and cinnamon trees grow. The autograph tree is so named because you can actually write on its leaves.

“Anytime of year is a good time to visit the garden ...”

Mary Jane Lee
Volunteer

For the more adventurous and those who want a more challenging hike, steep trails wind around the slopes and through the ravine of the "Jurassic Park" area of the garden. Wahiawa Botanical Garden is unique – the only one of Oahu's botanical gardens that offers a rain forest setting and a ravine.

"Anytime of year is a good time to visit the garden," according to Mary Jane Lee, who has been a volunteer at the facility for almost 20 years. She is just one of the volunteers who welcomes visitors and she offers a wealth of knowledge about the trees and plants that grow in the Wahiawa Botanical Garden.

She provided interesting facts about the botanical inhabitants of the garden. Lee explained that the bird catcher tree is so named be-



Mary Jane Lee, who has been a volunteer at Wahiawa Botanical Garden for almost 20 years, stands beneath a giant ficus (banyan) tree along one of the walking trails.

cause the tiny, white flowers that bloom on the tree produce a gooey substance. The feather cloaks of the Hawaiian royalty were made from the feathers of birds that were caught by the sticky material.

Another interesting fact offered by Lee is that the garden boasts the largest collection of palm trees from all over the world.

The newest addition to the garden are camellia plants which are native to Korea and were planted on Dec. 17, 2003 for the Korean Centennial.

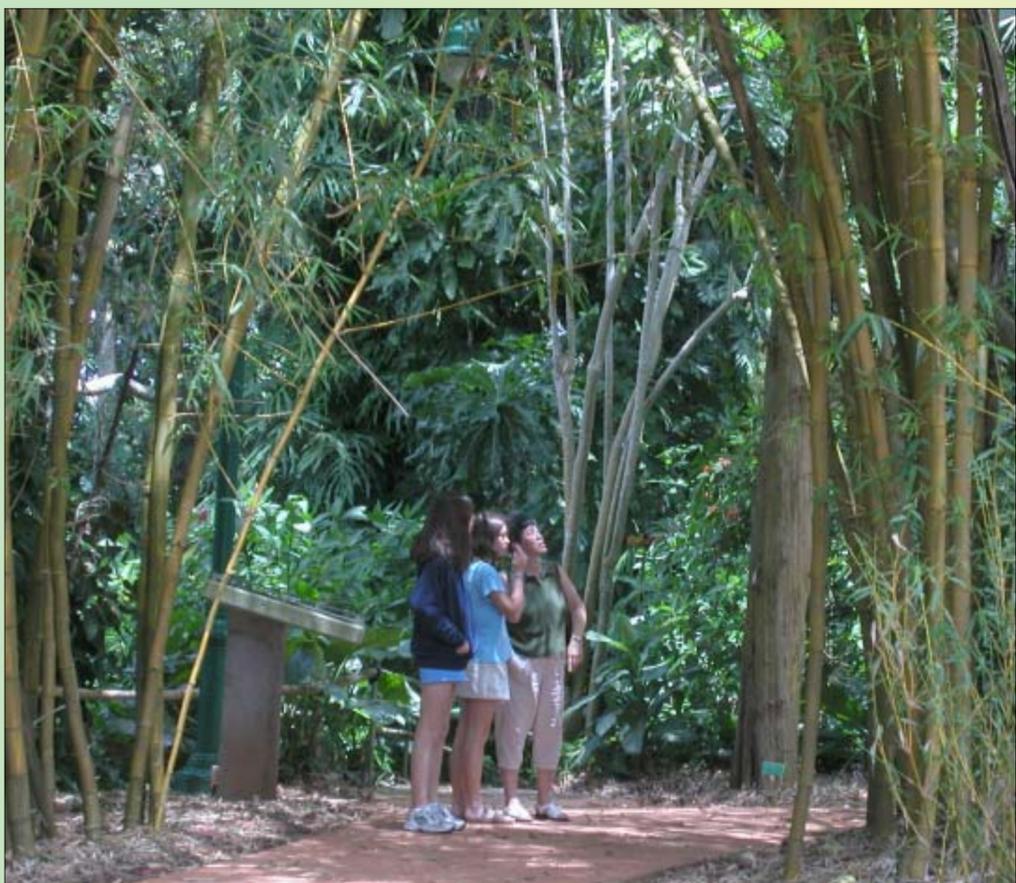
Lee serves on the Vision Program of Wahiawa Botanical Garden. Now in its fourth year, the program determines how funds are used to make improvements in the garden, an ongoing process. "The natural beauty of the garden is free and can be used by everyone," said Lee.

Jane Yanagida and Beth Stocker have volunteered at the garden for more than two years. Stocker is the daughter of a World War II Navy veteran. Both of the volunteers are

former Illinois residents who met in Hawai'i and formed a friendship. They were surprised when they discovered they had both signed up for the same docent training class at the facility. They spend a few hours each weekend at the botanical garden, welcoming visitors from the local area as well as around the world.

New facilities are planned to further enhance Wahiawa Botanical Gardens. A groundbreaking ceremony was held March 5 for a new three-building complex, consisting of a reception area, facility for meetings, and restroom area. The tentative target date for completion is December of this year.

Whether it's a trek through a "rain forest" that piques your interest or just a relaxing stroll and a chance to learn more about the beauty of Mother Nature, Wahiawa Botanical Garden is a tropical jewel in central Oahu that can provide outdoor enthusiasts with plenty of opportunities. Put on your walking shoes and you're ready to go.



Wahiawa Botanical Garden welcomes visitors from the local area and around the world. In the above photo, a family from California walks through a small "forest" of bamboo trees. Many of the children from Hawai'i's schools also tour the garden.



A scenic walkway bridges the "Jurassic Park" ravine and rain forest that is unique to Wahiawa Botanical Garden. The rain forest thrives because the park, located in central Oahu, offers a higher elevation and a cool, wet environment.

Wahiawa Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Information: 621-7321.

Other botanical gardens on Oahu:

(Information is available at MWR ITT offices for Foster Botanical Garden and Senator Fong Botanical Garden.)

Foster Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily. The cost to visit is \$5. Information: 522-7065.

Senator Fong Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. daily. Admission costs are: adults, \$10; children ages five-12, \$6; children age five and under, free. Information: 239-6775.

Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Information: 233-7323.

Koko Crater Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Information: 522-7060.

Liliuokalani Botanical Garden is open from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Information: 522-7060.

Window on Pearl Harbor

Karen S. Spangler, Assistant Editor

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Each minute is precious ...

It was the second time in just a few weeks that I had visited the quiet Pearl City community. The family of Charlotte "Sharkey" Schaefer and the families and friends in the neighborhood had gathered to plant a permanent memorial in honor of the 5-year-old girl who drowned in an apparent attempt to save a friend.

It was a typically beautiful day in paradise – blue skies, gentle tradewinds blowing, the kind of day that you want to be outside enjoying the wonderful weather that Hawaii has to offer. All around were children of all ages – laughing, running and playing on the grass, while some of the younger ones clutched a parent's hand and perhaps wondered what it was all about.

The simple ceremony was touching – as small children who were Sharkey's friends dug into the dirt around the base of the tree, planting the colorful blooms that would be a part of the permanent tribute to her. It occurred to me that the nearby stone birdbath adorned with cherubs was very appropriate – in remembrance of the little girl whom those in the neighborhood remembered as a little blue-eyed, yellow-haired angel.

As I listened to Allison Schaefer, Charlotte's mother, welcome those who attended and speak briefly about her daughter, I had a huge lump in my throat. I felt much respect and admiration for this grief-stricken mother who had shown so much strength as she endured such a devastating tragedy. When the children released pink balloons – one of Sharkey's favorite colors – into the sky and the strains of Celine Dion's song "Fly" floated in the air, I couldn't hold back my tears.

At the ceremony's conclusion, I walked across a short expanse of grass to gaze upon yet more memories of Charlotte. It almost seemed that Charlotte aka Sharkey, with her big blue eyes and dazzling smile, was looking at us from every photo. There was a large picture of her – dressed in her soccer uniform – that was taken just a week before she drowned. On a table nearby was a pair of small soccer shoes and a soccer trophy. Mementoes of the little girl who was described as part fairy princess and part tomboy were also on display – a pair of pink cowgirl boots, Barbie dolls, a little girl's kitchen set and an assortment of stuffed animals. Favorites of

the five-year-old, they were gentle reminders of the little girl who was memorialized at the ceremony.

I remembered the interview that I had done with Allison Schaefer soon after the tragedy a few weeks earlier. It had been one of the hardest interviews that I have ever done, one of the most difficult stories that I have ever had to write.

My heart cried out for this young mother who had lost something so precious – her baby girl. Sometimes smiling and frequently through tears, Allison shared her memories of her daughter. As she talked about how Sharkey loved to play dress up and show off her beautiful dresses to her neighborhood friends, I smiled. As she described the little girl who frequently managed to get grass stains and tears on her prettiest party dresses, I laughed with her. And throughout, I admired this woman who, despite her pain, showed such strength.

My thoughts drifted to my own children and how precious they are to me. I couldn't even begin to imagine the pain that Allison was feeling, couldn't even bear to think of something happening to any of my children.

Her message was simple, but emphatic. "I hope her death brings a message for people. Life is very fleeting and very precious – every minute," she said. As I listened to Allison Schaefer remember her beautiful little daughter, I shared her pain. I thought of my children waiting for me at home and was very thankful that they were safe and that I could go home and give them a big hug.

"There will never be a time that I don't miss her and think of her. She will always make me smile," said Allison.

When I left the ceremony, I cried – just as I had after I had finished my interview with the Schaefer family a few weeks before. There were tears of sadness for the Schaefer family who had lost one of their precious children. And there were tears of joy – thankfulness for my blessings, glad to have my own precious children.

I gazed upward into the skies and thought about Sharkey, heaven's newest little angel. And I remembered Allison Schaefer's words, "Life is very fleeting and very precious – every minute."

Have a fine Navy day in paradise.

NEX: Meet the authors

Col. Jack H. Jacobs, a Medal of Honor recipient, will talk, answer questions and sign books in the Pearl Harbor NEX from noon-2 p.m. April 19. Jacobs is one of only 132 living recipients of the nation's highest military honor, the Medal of Honor. He will be at the NEX signing copies of a book called "Medal of Honor: Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty," the only book on the Medal of Honor that is endorsed by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation.

On March 9, 1968, Jacobs was in Vietnam with his battalion, searching for Viet cong, when a large enemy force opened fire. A large piece of shrapnel tore through the top of Jacobs' head, breaking many of the bones in his face and temporarily blinding him in one eye. Nevertheless, Jacobs assumed control of the unit, ordering a withdrawal to a defensive perimeter. He then rescued 13 wounded soldiers and continued to drive off the Viet cong. He was awarded the Medal of Honor on Oct. 9, 1969 by President Richard Nixon. Jacobs is currently the military advisor to MSNBC.



Tracy Price-Thompson is the national best-selling author of "Black Coffee" and "Chocolate Sangria." A Brooklyn, N.Y. native, decorated Desert Storm veteran, and retired Army engineer officer, Price-Thompson is a Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Award finalist and a Ralph Bunche graduate fellow at Rutgers University who holds degrees in business administration and social work. She lives with her husband and children in Hawai'i, where she is working on her next novel.

Tracy Price-Thompson will be signing her latest novel "A Woman's Worth" at the Pearl Harbor NEX from noon-2 p.m. April 16.

The novel sends readers on a journey from a speakeasy whorehouse in the bottoms of Alabama to a luxurious high-rise apartment in Kenya as she weaves the story of a father's love, a mother's shame, and the daughter for whom they are willing to sacrifice everything.

Photos and information courtesy of authors.



Great Life Hawai'i photo of the week



BMI(SW) Matthew Davis is selected to help entertain the audience at a local luau.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation is offering the "Great Life Hawai'i Photo Contest," so dust off the photo albums and pick the photo that best represents Hawai'i so memorable. Submit unpublished photographs (no smaller than five by seven inches at 200 DPI) to "hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com." All photographs submitted will become the property of the paper and MWR, which reserves the right to edit, copyright and publish submissions. There is no entry fee, but there is a limit of one entry per family. Weekly photo winners will be showcased both in Hawai'i Navy News and on the MWR website "www.greatlife-hawaii.com." Every quarter, a winner will be selected from the weekly winners to receive a special gift package from MWR. This contest is open to amateur photographers only, who must be at least 18 years of age.

Navy provides safe, quality drinking water

Denise Emsley

PWC Public Affairs

As you turn on your household tap to fill up a glass with water or take a sip from the office water fountain, do you ever wonder where your water comes from and whether it is safe to drink?

If you are like most people, you probably go about your day using water without questioning its source or quality.

Being the Navy's water purveyor in Hawai'i, the Navy Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor (PWC PEARL) would like to provide you with a little more information about the water you are consuming on a daily basis.

PWC PEARL owns and operates five different and independent Navy water systems (Pearl Harbor, Barbers Point, Lualualei, Camp Stover and NCTAMS). From its six wells, the Center pumps an average total of 22.2 million gallons a day during the course of a year, with summer usage peaking at 35 million gallons per day. This water is distributed through one of five water systems and safely delivered to numerous military commands and thousands of military houses throughout Oahu.

Your tap water comes from several groundwater sources. "Our water originally comes from fresh rainwater," said Tony DiLullo, PWC PEARL's steam, air and potable water division head. "Rainwater percolates down through many layers of soil and lava which act as a filter, ultimately producing a clean and very good tasting water that we pump from our wells."

Is the water you receive a quality product that is safe to drink? From the very beginning, PWC PEARL has been committed to ensure Navy tap water is safe to drink.

It does so by following Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Department of Health requirements.

"The quality of our water in Hawaii is among the best in the world," said DiLullo.

The Navy's water system on Oahu was first built in the 1930s to service Naval Station and Naval Shipyard.

Since then, the systems have grown significantly over the years and presently consist of 250 miles of pipeline from four-inch to 42-inch water mains. Currently, PWC PEARL operates the second largest potable water system on the island of Oahu, providing drinking water to all Navy housing, the Pearl Harbor complex, Red Hill, Camp Smith, Kalaeloa (formerly known as Barbers Point), Lualualei, NCTAMS, Hickam Air Force Base and Aliamanu Army housing.

In recent years, the Navy's water system has undergone major improvements - taking advantage of the newest technology in the field.

One significant change was the automation of its water production and distribution systems. PWC PEARL now has the ability to remotely operate any of its pumping stations from a central control center located at Pearl Harbor.

It can also monitor water pressure throughout its systems, including far reaching areas such as Lualualei and NCTAMS.

PWC PEARL constantly monitors the water it pumps to make sure it complies with all regulatory standards.

The next time you take a sip of water supplied by the Navy, rest assured that you have been provided with a quality product that is safe to drink.

'Mrs. B' brings story time to Pearl

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

If you think that you are too old for storytime ... think again. Zany characters and crazy voices - all unique and original - are the trademark of Mrs. B as she brings her story time ... with a twist ... to children (and grownups) across the nation.

Mrs. B will be one of the guest performers at the Springfest: Month of the Military Child Celebration, planned from 4:30-9 p.m. April 17 at Ward Field near Bloch Arena, Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Mrs. B will present her cadre of comical storybook characters at 6 p.m.

But children aren't the only ones who are entertained by Mrs. B's outrageous songs and hilarious antics. Adults are also in stitches as they listen to her unique tales and new spins on classic fairy tales.

Mrs. B's story time in Hawai'i will bring something special to military children here as she presents, "We're Military Kids - What'chu think about that." She will be joined on stage by a local dance troupe made up of military kids who will do a choreographed dance to the military kids' song. When Carri Blake-Brekke (Mrs. B) planned a storytelling trip to Hawaii last year, she wrote a song especially for military kids.

An excerpt of the lyrics from the jammin' song goes like this:

"Don't mess with my daddy, Airman outta' Hickam

Or my Pearl Harbor Mama. They can really kick 'em.

They're on the line protecting our freedom.

Serving our nation because we really need 'em.

We're Military Kids. What'chu think about that?"

"Returning to any military installation for performances is a high point for me. Military kids carry such an unsung burden for our country. It is an honor for me anytime I have the opportunity to honor them with a performance, and Pearl Harbor and Hickam AFB hold a special place



Photo courtesy of Mrs. B

Mrs. B. will be performing at the Springfest: Month of the Military Child Celebration, April 17 at Ward Field near Bloch Arena, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

telling antics has grown. So far, she and her sister Jodi Melton have released three children's books, all best sellers. Jodi, who lives in Hawai'i with her Air Force husband and two children, has been drawing comical characters for about as long as Carri has written silly songs, and is the illustrator for all of the books produced for Carri's songs.

"These kids watch their moms and dads leave. That's a huge demand on these children," said Blake-Brekke. "They're extraordinary kids, all of them."

Blake-Brekke never planned to be a professional storyteller. But when she got her first guitar at the age of 11, she said she started writing ridiculous songs.

When she became a mother and began telling her children stories, she admitted that she became bored with the same old thing. "I decided to mix it up a little bit," she said. That's when Blake-Brekke took on a new persona and delighted her children with her crazy voices and zany characters as she gave the classic fairy tales a new twist.

Blake-Brekke said she didn't think anyone would pay for such nonsense, but the popularity of Mrs. B. and her story-

time...with a twist on April 23 at Hickam Air Force Base and at local military libraries. She has been invited as a conference performer at the National Military Child Organization's July conference in Colorado.

For more information about her schedule of appearances and to hear excerpts of songs about Mrs. B's clever, creative, comical characters, visit her Website at www.mrsbstorytime.com.

Retirees called to arms to give blood at Tripler

Staff Sgt. Michael Westerfield
Tripler Public Affairs Office



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Westerfield
Retired Rear Adm. C. Bruce Smith donates blood at the Tripler Army Medical Center's blood donor center while a technician checks instruments.

They've already served their hitch in previous wars, but retired service members have an opportunity to contribute to the war on terrorism by donating blood.

The Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Program needs to collect 100 to 150 units, or pints, of blood each week to support ongoing military operations in the Pacific Theater.

The most consistent source of blood donations has been the active duty service members stationed in Hawai'i. That source is drying up as deployments send Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines to fight the war on terrorism.

"Even when they return, they have to wait one to three years before they can donate again," said Capt. Michael Bukovitz, TAMC Blood Donor Center officer in charge. "Depending on where they deploy, most will be exposed to various things that will make their blood unacceptable for a period of time," he explained.

To make up for the reduced number of active duty donors, the Tripler Blood

Donor Center lab technician.

"After the blood is collected, part of the team processes the blood while others process the paperwork."

A successful blood drive might collect 20 to 30 units and last all day. As potential donors are screened, many have to be turned away.

"Many are surprised when we turn them away," said Bukovitz. "When they go on TDY (temporary duty) or deployment to certain areas or even when they get a tattoo, there is a waiting period before they can donate again."

"The donors represent our very best," said Cain. "They serve our country or support those who do and on top of that volunteer to give blood. Is it comfortable? No. Is it something everyone looks forward to? No. Does it make some people nervous? Yes. But these people line up to give. Even retired guys give. They might not serve actively but they still want to contribute."

"Some of our regular donors are veterans," said Raquel Duran, TAMC Blood Donor Center platelet pheresis nurse. "Although they gave greatly in service to America, they frequently vol-

unteer to give more. Lots of veterans give because of their loyalty, patriotism and sense of duty."

"After 9-11, I decided to become a regular donor," said Rear Adm. C. Bruce Smith, (ret.). "I was giving to the Blood Bank of Hawai'i until I found out the military had a separate blood program. It's the right thing to do to support our service members in their war on terrorism. I give once every two months. I don't think I've missed once."

The blood donated to TAMC supports not only the service members, but also their families and the retirees and their families.

"We work closely with donors, not patients. It's like working with the manufacturer rather than the customer," said Cain. "The blood we collect goes here and throughout the Pacific. We never know who the blood is going to. The person you help might be the kid next door or your battle buddy."

A fresh blood supply needs to be available at all times for routine and emergency operations as well as mass casualty situations and combat.

For more information contact the Blood Donor Center at 433-6148.

Donor Program is trying to include more family members, government employees and retirees in its donor base.

"Some family members, retirees and government employees give regularly, but we want to reach out to those who haven't yet," said Lt Col. Karen Burmeister, M.D., TAMC transfusion services medical director. "We need to make sure there will be no interrup-

tion in the blood supply."

The TAMC Blood Donor Center coordinates blood collection and distribution operation for all services. The blood collected serves active and retired military members and their families. The Blood Bank of Hawai'i is a completely separate system supporting the civilian population of Hawai'i. In times of need, the military blood system can purchase blood from other mainland sources based on availability. Sometimes it takes up to a week to receive blood from those sources.

All blood collection for the military takes place on military installations. TAMC blood collection activities take place daily at the TAMC blood donor center. There are regularly scheduled blood drives held at military installations across the island.

How much do you know about NMCRS?

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society

Recently, a gentlemen was in the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) office and seemed truly shocked about all that NMCRS does for Sailors, Marines, and their families. Below is a true/false questionnaire to see how much you know about today's NMCRS.

All services provided by NMCRS are confidential.

True. At NMCRS, all clients who call or enter the door are treated with respect and confidentiality. The fact that you have requested information or used services provided by the society will not be shared with anyone, including your command.

All services provided by NMCRS are free.

True. NMCRS is a non-profit organization serving active duty and retired Navy and Marine Corps families. All services are free of charge to the clients. NMCRS receives its funding by sales from the NMCRS Thrift Shop, repayment of interest-free loans and contri-

butions from the annual NMCRS fund drives.

NMCRS is only available in times of need.

False. NMCRS is always available when emergencies come up, but the society also provides other services. NMCRS is committed to improving the quality of life for Sailors, Marines and their families. The society specializes in the area of personal financial management. NMCRS also offers scholarships and loans for higher education and has a visiting nurses' program.

You can get help with an emergency even when the NMCRS office is closed.

True. To get help on weekends and after 3:30 p.m. on weekdays, call the Red Cross at 1-877-272-7337. The Red Cross works with NMCRS to assist families in emergencies.

NMCRS considers emergencies on a case-by-case basis.

True. NMCRS provides interest-free loans and grants to help with emergen-

cies. So what is an emergency? Emergencies are defined by the situation. NMCRS listens to each client's circumstances and offers help based on NMCRS policy. Typically, NMCRS offers money for essential vehicle repairs, emergency transportation and to help pay for food, rent and utilities. Assistance is also available to pay for medical and dental bills, funeral expenses, disaster relief and other unexpected emergencies.

NMCRS will help you develop a sound budget.

True. NMCRS provides free one-on-one budget sessions. NMCRS also provides group budget sessions. One of the most popular group sessions is the "budget for baby" class.

The budget counselor also does training and information sessions for individual commands upon request.

The topics covered are tailored to meet the needs of the group. Possible topics covered are developing a savings plan, basic budgeting skills, checkbook management and consumer awareness.

Topside by ITC(SW) Mike Purcell



MWR

Movie Call

Sharkey Theater, Pearl Harbor
(473-0726)

FRIDAY
7:00 p.m. Hidalgo (PG 13)
SATURDAY
2:30 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG)
4:45 p.m. Starsky & Hutch (PG 13)
6:30 p.m. Secret Window (PG 13)
SUNDAY
2:30 p.m. Confession of a Teenage Drama Queen (PG)
4:30 p.m. 50 First Dates (PG 13)
6:30 p.m. Eurotrip (R)
THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Starsky & Hutch (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. Starsky & Hutch (PG 13)
SATURDAY
2:00 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG)
7:00 p.m. Starsky & Hutch (PG 13)
SUNDAY
2:00 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London (PG)
7:00 p.m. Hidalgo (PG 13)
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Hidalgo (PG 13)

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

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

FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
7:00 p.m. Twisted (R)
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
7:00 p.m. Eurotrip (R)

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

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.

COWGIRL KICKERS

The Cowgirl Kickers dance team from McNeese State University at Lake Charles, La. will present free performances on April 16 at the following locations:

- 7 p.m. - Reception at Liberty in Paradise for Single Sailors only.
- 8:15 p.m. - An appearance and preview performance at Beeman Center.
- 9:30 p.m. - An appearance and preview performance at The Country Bar at Club Pearl.

• 10 p.m. - Hour-long performance, autograph session and photo opportunities at The Country Bar. For more information call 473-0606. For photos and background on the Cowgirl Kickers, visit their website at <http://www.mcneese.edu/kickers/default.htm>.

SPRINGFEST CELEBRATION

Springfest: Month of the Military Child Celebration will be held from 4:30-9 p.m. April 17 at Ward Field, Pearl Harbor. Children of all ages are invited to the free event that celebrates military children. The program includes:

- 5 p.m. - Wayne Watkins, keiki entertainer extraordinaire.
- 6 p.m. - Mrs. B's Storytime... with a Twist with stories for all ages.
- 6:45 p.m. - Leon & Malia's Keiki Calabash Concert.
- 7:30 p.m. - Enjoy the original Disney Movie, "Brother Bear" (G) and free popcorn.

All military and DoD families are invited to join in the events that include keiki games and activities, bounce houses, face painters, static displays and more. Barbecue plate lunches from Sam Snead's Tavern will be available for purchase. For more information visit www.greatlifehawaii.com or call 473-2569.

FREE BOOGIE BOARDING CLINIC

A free boogie boarding clinic will be held 9 a.m. April 17 at White Plains beach. For more information or to register in advance call 684-5133.

SPRING SPLASH

A spring splash will be held from 8:30-10:30 a.m. April 17 at Scott Pool. The splash event for children will include refreshments, films, fun and a free swim evaluation. For more information call 473-0394.

MWR EXPO

MWR will host an "everything you need to know" information expo to enlighten patrons about all of the leisure offerings from MWR and the Hawaiian Islands. The free event will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 21 at Club Pearl and is open to all eligible patrons. The event will include live entertainment, food sampling, displays and demonstrations. Prizes, including hotel stays, shopping certificates, free trips, and car rental packages, will be given away every hour. For more information call 473-0606.

BODYBUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 21st Annual Armed Forces Hawai'i Bodybuilding Championship will be held April 24 at Sharkey Theater on Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The competition is open to all active duty, reservists, family members and DoD civilians from all branches of the armed services. Pre-judging will begin at 9 a.m. (spectator fee is \$5).

The evening competition will begin at 7 p.m. (spectator fee is \$10). Registration is now open for the event. The entry fee for competitors is \$20. Entry forms are available at all military gyms and fitness centers and on the MWR Website, www.greatlifehawaii.com. For more information call the athletics office at 473-2494/0784.

MWR PET KENNEL

The MWR Pet Kennel for dogs and cats is now open. The kennel is located at the Halawa State Quarantine site in Halawa Valley. Costs for boarding animals are \$12 per day for dogs and \$10 per day for cats. Limited spaces are available for eligible patrons, which include active duty deploying personnel, PCS personnel housed in transient quarters/guest house, personnel on emergency leave, TDY personnel, regular/military leave personnel, DoD, and retired and Reservist personnel. The MWR Boarding Kennels are located at 99-951 Halawa Valley St., Aiea. For more information and requirements call 368-3456.

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED

Boys & Girls Clubs of Navy Hawai'i is looking for volunteer coaches and officials in a variety of sports and cheer-leading. As soccer season approaches, attention has turned to recruiting volunteer soccer coaches. If you have a few hours to spare for a good cause, call the youth sports office at 474-3501.

LEISURE TRAVEL / TLA TRAVEL

Planning a trip? Travel Connections, the new travel office located in Bloch Arena can assist with worldwide airline ticketing, hotel accommodations, vacation packages

and on-island TLA. For TLA, the travel office will arrange accommodations in one of a host of on-island hotels that offer lodging to fit many needs - all priced within TLA allowances. Those who book TLA through Travel Connections travel office will have the use of a free rental car during their TLA stay. Stop by throughout the month of March and enter the raffle for a DVD player. There is no cost to enter and you need not be present to win. The winning ticket will be drawn March 31. For more information call 422-0139.

CDH CHILDCARE PROVIDER

Become a Child Development Homes (CDH) childcare provider for military families. Participants must be 18 years or older, read and write English, and live in Navy family housing. Potential providers must attend an initial training class for a license to operate a childcare business. Those interested should apply at the CDH office in building 4 at the corner of Nimitz Highway and Camp Catlin Road between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Or visit the MWR Website at www.greatlifehawaii.com for an application. For more information call 471-8444.



Weekly events:

Sunday: Chess tournament, 6:30 p.m.
Monday: WWE wrestling, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 8-Ball tournament - 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Game show - 6:30 p.m.
Thursday: 9-Ball Pool tournament - 7 p.m.



50 First Dates: Henry, a veterinarian in Hawai'i, falls in love with a girl with short-term memory loss. So he has to keep getting her to fall in love with him every time they meet in order for them to have a relationship, since she never remembers the last time she met him.

Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London: The teen spy returns to Kamp Woody for more CIA training before moving to London as a foreign-exchange student. But as his new mentor informs him, he's really there for another assignment, assisted by a new female junior agent.

Confession of a Teenage Drama Queen: When a teenager from Greenwich Village, Lola, is forced to move to a New Jersey suburb, she finds that in her new school, there is another girl, Carla, who already has claim to the title of most popular girl. Aiming to oust Carla from her reign, Lola sets her sights on nabbing the lead role in the next big school play.

Eurotrip: When the German pen pal that a high school student has been using to help him get an "A" in German for years suggests that they meet, the boy's reaction is to freak out, thinking that "Mieke" is either a guy or some sort of stalker. But when he discovers that his pen pal is actually a cute "fraulein," he and his best friend fly to Europe in a wacky trip across the continent.

Hidalgo: A 3,000-mile survival race across the Arabian Desert is restricted to the finest Arabian horses ever bred, the purest and noblest lines, owned by the greatest royal families. In 1890, a wealthy Sheik invited an American, Frank T. Hopkins and his horse, Hidalgo to enter the race which pits him against Bedouin riders determined to prevent a foreigner from finishing.

Secret Window: Though he knows he should be at his computer writing another book at his dingy cabin, successful author Mort Rainey is sleeping on his favorite sofa for up to 16 hours a day. He is in the midst of a painful divorce and everything about the breakup has turned messy and unpleasant. Then, when it seems as if things can't possibly get worse, a psychotic stranger named John Shooter shows up at his doorstep, accuses Rainey of plagiarizing his story and demands satisfaction.

Starsky & Hutch: see review

Twisted: Police detective, Jessica Shepard, tracks a serial killer who murders the men she dates. When Jessica begins blacking out before each murder takes place, her partner, Mike Delmarco, and the police commissioner target her as the prime suspect.

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Starsky & Hutch

Having never seen an episode of the 1970s original television show, it would be hard to compare the two. However, this is supposed to be a "remake," which implies different than the original.

As a movie in 2004, "Starsky & Hutch" delivers several laughable moments that make up for an altogether trite movie. Ben Stiller plays the part of Dave Starsky, a curly haired by-the-books cop with a thirst for the job. After cycling through every partner available, he gets teamed with Ken Hutchinson (Owen Wilson), a break the rules cop who steals and manipulates the system.

After six movies together, Stiller and Wilson are becoming good at playing off one another. They fight the bad guy drug dealer (Vince Vaughn) with the help of a snitch by the name of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg) and a cherry red Ford Gran Torino.

The movie relies on its actors to carry an otherwise lackluster plot, but it works to a certain degree because Stiller and Wilson are so good. In the movie's best scene, Stiller and Wilson try to woo two cheerleaders (Amy Smart and Carmen Electra) through an acoustic rendition of the original Hutch's 1970s song while Stiller deals with the effects of a very potent substance, including hallucinations of a small bird.

There are other small bursts of laughter, including Will Ferrell's cameo as a perverted inmate, which allows the audience to leave the theater feeling that it wasn't a total waste of money. However, Todd Phillips has directed better comedies, such as "Road Trip" and "Old School." These movies know they're mindless comedies and let loose without attempting to create a script worthy of some higher merit or faithfulness.

Starsky & Hutch could have benefitted by leaving out John O'Brien (who wrote the original series) as a fellow scriptwriter and developed a true remake.

OVERALL RATING: ⬇️⬇️⬇️⬇️⬇️

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@honolulu-advertiser.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.

MISCELLANEOUS

BLOOD DRIVES

- **April 19:** 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
- **April 22:** 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Air Force, Hickam Community Center.
- **April 26:** 9 a.m.-noon, U.S. Army Reserves, Kaala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks.
- **April 28:** 7:30-11:30 a.m., U.S. Navy, Naval Brig, Ford Island.

For more information call 433-6148.

EARTH DAY

Navy Region Hawai'i is hosting an Earth Day Fair at the NEX April 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The family friendly event includes a coloring contest open to children ages 10 and under. Prizes will be awarded to each age group. Pick up contest forms at the NEX. For more information call 473-2888.

ALOHA MARDI GRAS

The Navy Hale Keiki School will hold its 11th annual silent and live auction, "Mardi Gras ~ Aloha Style" from 5-9 p.m. April 17 at the Hickam Officer's Club. Ticket prices are \$15 per person and includes heavy pupus, costumes and live entertainment. This year's proceeds are targeted for classroom computer upgrades and safety upgrades for the school's playground structures. Navy Hale Keiki School, established in 1946, is a private, non-profit organization committed to providing an early childhood education for children in preschool through second grade. While open to both the military and civilian communities, through-

out its 56 years the school has traditionally attracted 90 percent of its total enrollment from military families. To make a donation or purchase tickets for the auction contact 227-0954 or sydneyann1313@aol.com. All donations are tax deductible.

MCBH JOB FAIR

The annual Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) Job Fair will be held from 9 a.m.-noon May 7 at the Enlisted Club, MCBH Kaneohe. The job fair is open to active duty personnel, retirees and reserves, and their spouses and family members. DoD identification cardholders and USCG Department of Transportation personnel with base access are also welcome. The job fair offers an opportunity for those seeking local or federal employment to network with employers and other jobseekers. Attendees should bring their resumes and should dress accordingly in professional attire. Due to the nature of the event, children will not be admitted. For more information, call the Family Member Employment Assistance Program manager at 257-7790. The event is sponsored by the Family Member Employment Assistance Program, MCBH, and the Joint Employment Management System (JEMS), Pearl Harbor. Visit www.jemshawaii.com for information about the job fair or the JEMS Job Bank.

HOSTS NEEDED

The International Hospitality Center is seeking volunteers to provide a day of hospitality for the officers and men of the Chilean training ship, "Esmeralda," on May 15. The International Hospitality Center is a private, volunteer community organization, providing services for international exchange students, government and foundation grantees, and foreign military. About 1,200 volunteers statewide assisted 4,887 participants from 48 countries during the past year. Hosts are asked to provide a warm welcome to the officers and men by taking them sightseeing, on beach picnics, recreational activities, backyard barbecues, etc. For more information and registration to host, call Barbara Bancel, executive di-

rector of the International Hospitality Center at 521-3554, fax at 532-2422 or send email to ihc@priority.net.

SAME SCHOLARSHIP

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), Honolulu post, will award a \$1,500 scholarship with a one-year SAME 'young member' membership. Applications must be postmarked by May 10. Information on eligibility and submission requirements can be obtained by calling Commander Bert Diehl, U.S. Coast Guard at 541-2200.

SHIP/SUBMARINE OHANA

USS CHOSIN FSN

The USS Chosin Family Support Network will host a spring party for children from 1-5 p.m. April 17 at McGrew Point Community Center. McGrew family housing is located on Kam Highway near Aloha Stadium. The event will include refreshments, a craft project, games and a surprise guest for keiki. Those who plan to attend can RSVP or if they have questions can email FSN at FSNCHOSIN@yahoo.com or call Amy at 456-0280.

NEX

POT-A-PLANT WORKSHOP

Children can learn to decorate their own pots and plant their own flowers at a free kids' pot-a-plant workshop from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. April 10 at the NEX Outdoor Living Center. Children must be accompanied by a parent.

COLOR CONSULTATION

Customers can find the perfect makeup match for their skin tone. Stop by the Lancôme cosmetics counter at the Navy Exchange for a color consultation April 15-18. Participants receive a complimentary 10-day supply of foundation while supplies last. For more information or to make an appointment call 423-3313.

BOOK SIGNING

• Meet Tracy Price-Thompson, national best-selling author of "Black Coffee, Chocolate Sangria," and her latest, "A Woman's Worth," which tells the story of a

family's sacrifice and one man's journey to ensure the safety of his daughter. Ms. Price-Thompson will hold a book-signing from noon-2 p.m. April 16 at the NEX book department.

• Colonel Jack Jacobs, U.S. Army, was honored for his gallant actions and extraordinary heroism during the Vietnam War and was profiled in the book "Medal of Honor: Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty," by Peter Collier and Nick Del Calzo. Col. Jacobs will be at the NEX book department from noon-1 p.m. April 19 to sign copies of the book.

GRILL DEMO

Grill demonstrations will be held April 17 and May 15 at the NEX Outdoor Living Center. A Char-Broil Grill representative will be on hand to give a demonstration and answer questions.

COOL WATER MAN

Are you athletic, adventurous and strong? The Navy Exchange and Davidoff Cool Water are hosting the Cool Water Man talent search. Those who wish to enter should stop by the NEX from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. April 24 to have their picture taken. Participants will be entered to win a trip to the Sport's Illustrated swimsuit party and the big game in Jacksonville, Fla. Some participants will be featured in the 2005 Cool Water Man calendar.

SKIN CARE

What's your color? Discover new spring makeup trends at the Navy Exchange Clinique cosmetics counter April 29-May 2. For more information or to make an appointment call 423-3313.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

RED CROSS TRAINING

The American Red Cross at Hickam AFB is currently accepting applications for a free dental assistant training program. Applicants should be military dependents, over 18 years of age and have a high school diploma. For more information contact the Red Cross office at 808-449-0166 e-mail at arc@hickam.af.mil.

