April 19, 2013
Volume 44, Number 15
www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil

# Hawaii Marine

Lance Cpl. Janelle Y. Chapman | Hawaii Marine

**Col. Brian Annichiarico, Marine Corps Base Hawaii commanding officer, demolishes part of the last old housing unit of the Ulupau neighborhood during a demolition ceremony, Monday. This was the last house of 3,000 housing units in the base's military housing renovation project to be leveled and rebuilt.**

## Out with old, in with new

**Lance Cpl. Janelle Y. Chapman**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

The last family housing unit in the Ulupau neighborhood of Marine Corps Base Hawaii was demolished Monday afternoon, marking the beginning of a new renovated era.

Phase C was the final house of 3,000 to be demolished in the construction and renovation of housing units at Navy and Marine Corps bases on Oahu and Kauai. The demolition of this quadplex represented the final milestone in giving military families new, updated homes.

"It became routine," said Will Boudra, vice president for development with Forest City Development in Hawaii. "A house would go up and a house would go down. We wanted to pause at the end and bring the leadership in to commemorate the partnership with the Department of the Navy."

Col. Brian Annichiarico, MCB Hawaii commanding officer, and Navy Capt. Jeffrey James, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander, attended the ceremony Monday. Boudra was the main speaker for the ceremony, explaining the demolition, rebuilding project and participating companies. Annichiarico and James were invited to speak during the ceremony. Annichiarico had the privilege of partially demolishing the last house with an excavator.

"It's the last phase of construction and I couldn't be more excited," Annichiarico said.

The project began in 2004 and the last phase, the Ulupau neighborhood, is estimated for completion in April 2014. Two-hundred and eighteen homes will replace the now-demolished ones. When the units are built, the oldest house on base will only be six years old, young compared with the approximately 30-year-old homes that once stood here.

"I can take pride and honor in this," Annichiarico added.

After the nearly 10 years of demolishing and rebuilding homes, the project is almost complete. Additionally, to promote green energy, every house receives power from solar panels on its roof.

Three of the homes were tested and achieved a Net Zero energy status, meaning their solar panels produced more electricity than the household used, according to Forest City Military Communtiies.

Annichiarico said Marine Corps Base Hawaii strives to be a leader in eco renovations, hoping to set an example to other bases on the mainland and around the world.

"Today's demolition is a culmination of almost a decade of construction and renovations at Navy and Marine Corps neighborhoods on Oahu and Kauai," said Greg Raap, Forest City Military Communities regional vice president. "As part of the public-private partnership, we are rebuilding approximately half of the total inventory of 6,342 units across 34 neighborhoods in an effort to provide the most up-to-date housing for our Navy and Marine Corps families to enjoy."

Besides rebuilding military homes and neighborhoods, Forest City looks to improve community centers, swimming pools, and parks. It is not only trying to update the military's living quarters but their "play" quarters as well.

"This helps our military know their families are taken care of," James said. "It lets them not worry,and focus on what needs to be done."

## Keeping K-Bay debris free

**Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

**KANEOHE BAY, Hawaii —** Waterfront Operations sharpened its skills while conducting boom training in Kaneohe Bay, April 11.

In the event of any natural disaster or aviation mishap, resulting in spillage of hazardous waste into the ocean, Waterfront Ops will deploy sailors and a boom to clear hazardous material from the water.

The boom is a device that floats above and below the water to contain oil or environmental hazards floating on the surface. If an aircraft crashes into the water or a ship leaks fuel, sailors will deploy the boom to the location to keep fuel and oil from spreading.

Sailors at Waterfront Ops became proficient in every aspect of boom deployment. For some sailors, it was the first time getting their feet wet with the boom.

"This was my first time training with the boom, it was great and I look forward to future training exercises with it," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Garret Howell, a boatswain's mate with Waterfront Ops on Marine Corps Base Hawaii and native of Charleston, S.C. "The boom training gave everyone in the unit an opportunity to learn the equipment and

*See WATER, A-7*

Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Anthony Cain, an engineman with Waterfront Operations here on Marine Corps Base Hawaii and native of Sacramento, Calif., throws a rope connected to the boom to Petty Officer 2nd Class Garret Howell, boatswain's mate with Waterfront Operations on Marine Corps Base Hawaii and native of Charleston, S.C. during boom training in Kaneohe Bay, April 11.**

## Breaking the ice: 'Island Warrior' style

Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi | Hawaii Marine

**Marines with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, conduct an ice breaching exercise on Lake Leavitt at Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., April 10.**

**Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

**MOUNTAIN WARFARE TRAINING CENTER, BRIDGEPORT, Calif. —** Marines with Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, transitioned from sand to snow and took to the slopes during ski tour training at Mountain Warfare Training Center Bridgeport, Calif., April 3.

The Marines worked together to breach the ice as part of a new course at MWTC. The purpose of the course is to train in cold weather conditions, conduct ice reconnaissance and create obstacles for the enemy in similar terrain.

Lance Cpl. William Jenkins, an assault man and section leader with Echo Company and native of Bremerton, Wash., said they implemented three different types of charges to conduct the ice breaching training.

"We used surface, mid and below-the-ice charges to create ice obstacles," Jenkins said. "Because there are different types of ice, it's important to know what explosives we need."

Master Sgt. Joseph Gilliland, the engineer operations chief for CLB-3 and a native of Grand Bay, Ala., said the course, which was approved last month, is very significant for the engineering community.

"This is the only cold weather mountain engineering course in the Department of Defense," Gilliland said. "The Army has some cold weather heavy equipment training in Alaska, but not with explosives like combat engineering. This course's approval was a pretty big deal for us. Now Headquarters Marine Corps recognizes it as a formal school, and will always be conducted in Bridgeport."

Gilliland said while collecting data for the course, he and several mountain leader engineers took history into consideration.

"We started looking into historical facts on wars that took place in cold weather fronts, like the Finnish War," Gilliland said. "Either the good guys or the bad guys would utilize frozen lakes or rivers to store vehicles or implement the area as a helicopter landing zone. With ice breaching, you disrupt the ice as a means of counter-mobility, so the enemy can't utilize that terrain."

Gilliland said they opened the course for any Marine who deals with explosives.

"We looked directly at assault men because they have some demolition knowledge," Gilliland said. "Assault men have a different role from combat engineers, but now they have the opportunity to conduct breaching like we do. It works for both fields."

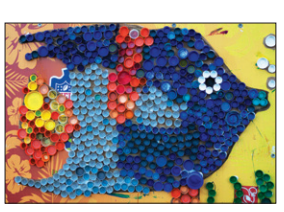
Lance Cpl. James Harshberger, an assault man and squad leader with Echo Company and native of Overland Park, Kan., said the training they conducted is beneficial for future use.

"If we set up a forward operating base on deployment in a cold environment with frozen lakes, the enemy could use it to advance upon us," Harshberger said. "But we could mitigate them by using explosives to disrupt the ice, and therefore hinder the enemy."

Gilliland said the statistics they collect will benefit any unit with future deployments.

"Cold weather and elevation have different effects on explosives," Gilliland said. "We were able to collect that data and anyone who trains in this course will have the necessary knowledge. Hitler would create rockslides and dirt avalanches to block roads, which was very effective. We do that here to get the training in the event of deployment or conflict, in order to block the enemy."

**To the mountaintop**
Single Marines hike Kuliouou, **B-1**



**Trash to Treasure**
Children create art "In the Park," **C-1**

Saturday
**High 77°**
**Low 67°**

Sunday
**High 77°**
**Low 67°**

# NEWS BRIEFS

### Volunteer opportunity at Honolulu Zoo

The Navy League is seeking volunteers for Military Appreciation Day at the Honolulu Zoo. The event will take place Sunday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers should plan to arrive by 7:30 a.m. and leave after the event ends. Volunteers will be working in various areas such as food service and running games. Volunteers should wear shorts and closed-toe sneakers. Minimum age for volunteers is 16. An event T-shirt will be provided upon arrival. Those interested in volunteering should get in touch with Johanna Marizan-Ho at 257-8876 or johanna.marizanho@usmc.mil.

### MARADMIN reinstates tuition assistance

MARADMIN 203/13 Voluntary Education Service and Tuition Assistance has reinstated the Marine Corps tuition assistance program. Tuition assistance will not be approved retroactively for enrolled courses prior to April 8. For more information, call the Education Center at 257-2158.

### Free movie night at the chapel

Free Movie Night at the Chaplain Joseph W. Estabrook Chapel will be held April 27 at 6 p.m. The chapel will be offering a free showing of "Courageous," a movie which builds on the belief that men desire to be found courageous in an important battle. For more information, email brenton.holbrook@med.navy.mil.

### Martial arts instructor course

SOI West Detachment Hawaii will be conducting a martial arts instructor course May 6 through 24. Marines planning on attending the course will receive training and knowledge in personal development in the synergies of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. Marines will also receive instruction on how to conduct certification of Marines from tan through black belt user levels, supervising the sustainment and integration of martial arts training, and supervise all other MCMAP-related training according to MCO 1500.59. Prerequisites include: Completed NAVMC 11749. Also, COC S-3's submit qualified Marines into Marine Corps Training Information Management Systems prior to attending.

a. Corporal or above
b. Gray belt or higher
c. Recommended by reporting senior and COC
d. Current first class PFT
e. Current first class CFT
f. Medically cleared and on full duty status.

Call Staff Sgt Avalos at 257-1337 with questions.

### Malama Ka Aina

Malama Ka Aina, the base-wide cleanup of all buildings and grounds is scheduled from Monday through Wednesday.

This event is designed for all hands, including Marines, sailors, civilian personnel, family members, and volunteers, to work together in a cooperative effort to beautify our historic base.

"Malama Ka Aina" is a Hawaiian term meaning "Caring for the Land." As tenants of MCB Hawaii, we should pride ourselves similarly in the cultural stewardship and sustainability and continue to make Marine Corps Base Hawaii the epitome of "paradise."

The Base Inspector's Office is mainly responsible for this event and is organizing the operation with the aide of all tenant commands. It is highly encouraged that as many as possible participate and show their support.

### Important phone numbers

| | |
|---|---|
| On-base emergencies | 911 |
| Child Protective Service | 832-5300 |
| Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO | 257-8852 |
| Base information | 449-7110 |
| MCB Hawaii Chaplain | 257-3552 |
| DEERS | 257-2077 |


Hawaii Marine

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| | |
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Hawaii Marine is a free publication available at stands on Marine Corps Base Hawaii and neighboring businesses. If you are interested in obtaining copies by mail, please contact MidWeek Printing, Inc. at 529-4700.

Submit items for Hawaii Marine to the managing editor no later than noon on the Friday prior to publication, using the following address:

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Photos by Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

**Pfc. Kyle Kaiwibenson (front), a flight equipment technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 and native of Punta Gorda, Fla. and Pfc. Kong Tiong, a maintenance technician with MALS-24 and native of Milwaukee, Wis., carry ironwood branches off the Bellows Beach shoreline, Saturday.**

# Weed Warriors preserve Bellows Beach shoreline

**Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

**BELLOWS BEACH, Hawaii** — Marines and civilians teamed up to volunteer as Weed Warriors at Bellows Beach to preserve Hawaii's native vegetation, Saturday.

Weed Warriors work to reduce the negative impact of invasive weeds and plants in parks, trails and shorelines.

During Weed Warriors events, staff from the Environmental Compliance and Protection Department offer information about native Hawaiian plants and how to protect them.

According to said Lance Bookless, the senior natural resources manager for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, the goal of the Weed Warriors is to improve the recreational quality of Marine Corps Base Hawaii's environment.

Marines jumped at the opportunity to volunteer as Weed Warriors.

"This is my second time getting out with the Weed Warriors," said Sgt. Michael Tomlin, a maintenance management chief with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and native of Whittier, Calif.

"It's a good opportunity to get out and see the island," Tomlin said. "I really enjoy helping the environment in Hawaii."

Volunteers arrived at the Bellows Beach front gate at 8:30 a.m. and were briefed on the day's mission.

Weed Warriors were tasked with hand pulling-golden crownbeard, a yellow dandelion-looking weed, which covered much of the open areas near Bellows Beach.

Marines grabbed axes and saws to attack the ironwoods, evergreen trees which populate much of the coastline.

They dug the sharp teeth of saw blades into the ironwood's dark branches with much determination to help keep the coastline as free of invasive species as possible.

**Sgt. Michael Tomlin, a maintenance management chief with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and native of Whittier, Calif. pulls golden crownbeard, a yellow dandelion-looking weed, which covered much of the open areas at Bellows Beach, Saturday.**

"I volunteer to give back to the community," said Pfc. Kyle Kaiwibenson, a flight equipment technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 and native of Punta Gorda, Fla.

"Every small deed makes a huge difference," he said. "It doesn't matter how big or small the volunteering opportunity is. All help makes the world a better place."

Both species of plants are found throughout the Hawaiian Islands. They grow on the seashore in dry, salty, chalky soils and in high mountainous rainfall sectors in volcanic areas.

According to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, factors such as numerical dominance, physical dominance or the alteration of native plants' water cycle, or natural habitat determine the invasiveness of a plant.

The ironwood and golden crownbeard display the qualities of invasive plants.

"It's good to have Marines get out into the community and give back to the beautiful environment that surrounds them," Bookless said.

"This is the biggest group of volunteers we've had in a long time," Bookless said. "Everything that everyone is doing here today helps the native plants grow."

# Environmental Corner

Earth Day is recognized every year on April 22. The Marine Corps Earth Day theme for 2013 is "Global reach, local action."

As our nation's "911" expeditionary fighting force, we recognize the direct and indirect impacts that our Marine Corps mission has on the environment and the communities in which we live, train and operate throughout the globe.

To uphold our global responsibilities, defend our interests, and maintain our readiness, we must be good stewards of the natural and cultural resources entrusted to us. By taking proper measures to protect and conserve these resources, we ensure our ability to work, train, and operate for generations to come. Many of these protective measures can be accomplished at the local level, making a difference on our bases, in our communities and with our neighbors.

Earth Day presents a unique opportunity for everyone to appreciate our natural resources, acknowledge our environmental responsibilities, and take local action to support and highlight our global reach. Even with current fiscal constraints, Marine Corps installations, units and individuals can participate in myriad activities, most of which are very low or no cost. By picking up trash in the community, running in an Earth Day race, volunteering in local environmental events, conserving energy, or participating in other ways, Marines and their families can raise awareness of sound environmental stewardship and reaffirm our commitment to environmental compliance and protection. I encourage everyone to use Earth Day to reflect on our global responsibilities, which includes a standing obligation to protect our environment as we protect our nation, "in the air, on land and sea."

***Maj. Gen. J. A. Kessler***
***commander***
***Marine Corps Installations Command***

# AROUND THE CORPS

## Regional Command Southwest honors fallen heroes

**Cpl. Joshua Young**
*1st Marine Expeditionary Force*

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. —** Friends, family and service members from various allied nations gathered to honor the men and women who were killed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom during the I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) deployment in Helmand and Nimroz provinces in Southern Afghanistan.

The diverse group united in commemoration to show their support to their fallen friends and their families at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 11.

Maj. Gen. Charles M. Gurganus, the commanding general of I MEF (Fwd) and Regional Command (Southwest), emphasized the importance of memorializing the service members' sacrifice.

"Each one was a husband or a wife," said Gurganus, "Each one was a father or a mother, a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, and each one had to leave their family behind. We're here to honor the sacrifice of these men and women."

The service members' names were each read aloud at the memorial. Marines holding a dog tag bearing the name of one of the fallen service members approached the battle cross on display and draped the tag from the rifle as each name echoed across the parade deck.

The memorial also provided an opportunity to bring closure to the deployment, which was made successful by those willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice.

"The sacrifice represented by the memorial we see in front of us today has allowed the most extraordinary progress over the year of our deployment," said Brigadier Stuart Skeates, the deputy commanding general of RC (SW) Afghanistan. "Our fallen will live on forever in our memory."

The parade deck was opened to any who wished to pay their respects to the deceased service members at the memorial following the ceremony. Service members embraced family members, shaking their hands and thanking them for the opportunity to pay them tribute.

Cpl. Joshua Young | 1st Marine Expeditionary Force

**Cpl. Joshua Collier, a helicopter mechanic with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469, presents a dog tag to Sgt. Maj. Harrison Tanksley, the sergeant major of I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), during a memorial service for Regional Command (Southwest) at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 11.**

"The families here need to know that each one of these heroes and everyone else who has served in Afghanistan has made a difference," Gurganus said. "We'll keep the faith with you, and we'll continue to keep you in our prayers. My promise to you is that we never will forget, we will remember."

Jack Beauchamp, the father of Petty Officer 2nd Class Clayton Ross Beauchamp, who was killed while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan, described his feelings on how the memorial brought closure to their sacrifice.

"This lets us know that all of our fallen soldiers from whatever nation or branch are not forgotten," Beauchamp said. "They went over there for a reason. They went over there to do a job. We're going to keep remembering them for what they do."

## 22nd MEU maintains constant readiness between deployments

**Sgt. Austin Hazard**
*22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit*

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. —** The 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit keeps an expeditionary footing even between deployments by remaining qualified and ready to be called upon at a moment's notice.

MEUs serve as the primary instrument in America's 911 force in readiness. Every day at the 22nd MEU is spent training and preparing not only for its slated 2014 deployment, but for any contingency that may crop up between now and then.

The unit's training is continuous, with Marines completing their annual swim, rifle, pistol and gas mask qualifications, and others scheduled for various career and specialty courses.

"Right now, the MEU is focused on maintaining its readiness through keeping up annual requirements," said Gunnery Sgt. Demetrick Jordan, 22nd MEU training chief and native of Gainesville, Fla. "This will enable us to focus on pre-deployment training and operations."

Even attached Marines from hazardous response, explosive ordnance disposal and reconnaissance units are being sent to courses they will need for any deployments ahead of normal timelines.

Lance Cpl. Caleb McDonald | 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit

**Sgt. Christopher Williams, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit motor transport operations chief and New York-native, checks the placement of a steering gear underneath a seven-ton truck at the unit's motor pool aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 4.**

"Our motor transport guys are also busy with licensing right now," said Gunnery Sgt. Trever Nelson, 22nd MEU logistics chief.

According to Nelson, Marines in the unit's motor pool have been certified to train and license other personnel for buses and a number of tactical vehicles, including Humvees and seven-ton trucks.

"They're working with our battalion landing team, combat logistics battalion and air combat element for tactical vehicle licensing," added Nelson, a native of Fort Valley, Ga. "Right now, they've licensed more than 130 Marines with the MEU.

Marines around the unit are also busy maintaining equipment, conducting weekly preventative maintenance on all MEU vehicles, updating deployment gear lists, ensuring the MEU has everything it will need for the 2014 deployment, and testing equipment that otherwise wouldn't be used until the deployment.

"If we're going to take this equipment out there, we need to test it first and make sure it's reliable," Cpl. Stephen Morrow, 22nd MEU network engineer and native of Livermore, Calif., said about his Marines configuring a mobile network server. "We want to build our network now so we know it will work later."

In this fashion, every section of the 22nd MEU continues to prepare for the scheduled deployment, as well as any emergencies that may call the unit to action even sooner.

## EOD technicians share knowledge at Balikatan

**Pfc. Kasey Peacock**
*III Marine Expeditionary Force*

**CLARK FIELD, Philippines —** Explosive ordnance technicians with the Philippine Air Force and the U.S. Marine Corps shared knowledge through training at Clark Field, Philippines April 10.

During the training, Marine EOD technicians shared the capabilities of the HAL hook and line system, used for basic rigging and transporting, with Filipino technicians through video presentations and practical application.

The training conducted was part of exercise Balikatan 2013, an annual bilateral exercise, in its 29th iteration, aimed at ensuring interoperability of the Philippine and U.S. militaries during planning, contingency and humanitarian assistance operations.

"As EOD technicians, we have to deal with a lot of dangerous situations," said PAF Staff Sgt. Gerald T. Alamay, an EOD technician with the 772nd Explosive Ordinance Disposal Squadron, 710th Special Operations Wing. "When you are working with other EOD technicians, there is always a bond because of the danger you could potentially face. I have had many experiences training with the Marines during prior exercises and every opportunity is a great one for the squadron."

Pfc. Kasey Peacock | III Marine Expeditionary Force

**U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Jose Acevedo explains the use of equipment from the HAL hook and line system, used for basic rigging and transporting, to Filipino explosive ordnance technicians at Clark Field, Republic of the Philippines, April 10.**

The HAL kit is comprised of different ropes, pulleys, levers and fulcrums that can be used to safely open doors and remove hazardous items.

After brief demonstrations from the Marines, the Filipino technicians quickly took to utilizing the HAL equipment by using it to open the door of a Humvee and extract simulated hazardous objects from it.

While the training was primarily to familiarize the Filipino technicians on the equipment, it was also a great opportunity for the Marines to refresh their skills, according to U.S. Marine Sgt. Timothy J. Firestone, an EOD technician with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"Throughout the week we have demonstrated many of our different capabilities to the Filipino technicians, which is great for both militaries," said Firestone. "While our training is taken very seriously, we have had a lot of fun getting to know the Filipino technicians through our time spent with them."

Despite not working with the equipment very often, the Filipino technicians quickly caught on and received lasting knowledge and training that could be used in the future, according to U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Jose Acevedo, an EOD technician with MWSS 172, 1st MAW.

"I was impressed while watching them work with the equipment," said Acevedo. "What they lacked in their equipment, they made up for in experience as most of them have been in the EOD field for many years."

Several different units with the 710th Special Operations Wing are conducting training with various Marine units across the Philippines during the exercise. These training operations consist of humanitarian civic assistance, ground military training operations and a natural disaster response command post exercise.

The Balikatan series of events focuses on training both Philippine and U.S. armed forces to provide relief and assistance in the event of natural disasters and other crises that endanger public health and safety. Additionally, military service members from both countries will conduct combined staff exercises to improve interoperability and contingency planning.

# Marine's best friend is foe's worst enemy

**Story and photos by**
**Carolyn Lee**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Fortifying Marine Corps Base Hawaii's defenses against intruders and security threats are 14 well-trained sentinels who do their jobs unstintingly, patrolling the base at all hours. They exemplify Gen. James N. Mattis's advice: "Demonstrate to the world there is 'no better friend, no worse enemy' than a U.S. Marine." In this case, let's call them furry, four-footed Marines.

Just the sight of a military working dog is enough persuasion to abandon criminal plans, according to Sgt. Daniel Pierce, chief trainer at the K-9 unit of the Provost Marshal's Office at MCB Hawaii and native of Tyngsboro, Mass.

"Military working dogs are a visual deterrent," Pierce said. "A lot of times our (military) dogs are as nice as every other dog. It's just that ours are trained to attack."

At an outdoor K-9 unit demonstration April 5 at Mokapu Elementary School, students found it hard to keep quiet and motionless, wanting to break out in cheers to express their awe and admiration at the speed with which the dogs launched themselves at human decoys. Pierce told the students they needed to stay silent and still to avoid attracting the canines' toothy attention.

Despite the admonition, one boy couldn't resist shouting gleefully: "Release the beast!" By a show of hands, nearly all the children indicated they had seen K-9 demonstrations before. But they were clearly enthralled at having a front-row seat, on the grassy grounds of the k-sixth-grade school, to another exhibition of the military working dogs' talents and their trainers' control over them and rapport with them.

Christopher LeFebvre, of Kaneohe, a civilian with the Military Police at MCB Hawaii, encased himself in a "marshmallow suit" to protect against the military working dogs' attacks. After the demonstration, LeFebvre showed the audience that even with the thick padding, he sustained shallow "pressure bites" on his forearms and extensive bruising under the arm, drawing loud oohs and aahs from the students.

All military working dogs of the U.S. Department of Defense undergo rigorous training at Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. It takes 120 days for them to complete basic training to patrol and detect explosives and narcotics. They are predominantly German shepherd and Belgian Malinois breeds.

"The German shepherd and Belgian Malinois have the best overall combination of keen sense of smell, endurance, speed, strength, courage, intelligence and adaptability to almost any climatic condition," according to a fact sheet from the Air Force 341st Training Squadron, which operates the Military Working Dog Program at Lackland.

**Sgt. Daniel Pierce, military working dog chief trainer at the Provost Marshal's Office at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, gives an attack command to a German shepherd in a demonstration in the PMO field, March 27. Pierce, a native of Tyngsboro, Mass., has worked with military working dogs on three deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan.**

Dogs can run twice as fast as humans. But it is the canine sense of smell that is truly astonishing. We can taste a teaspoon of sugar in a mug of coffee. A dog's sense of smell is so acute that it can detect a teaspoon of sugar in a million gallons of water, according to dog researcher Alexandra Horowitz of Barnard College, part of Columbia University.

The military working dogs' superior sense of smell is crucial in executing their tasks of sniffing out bombs that may be hidden underground, or tracking an enemy concealed behind a door or wall.

"When you walk into a pizza shop, you smell pizza," said Sgt. Joshua Sutherland, kennel master for the PMO at MCB Hawaii and native of Lexington, Ky. "When a military working dog goes into a pizza shop, he can smell all the individual odors of the ingredients of that pizza -- the dough, the cheese, the tomato sauce."

That ability to identify the teeniest whispers of different scents has saved many human lives as the military working dogs have deployed alongside Marines in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The men and women who serve as military working dog handlers are the tip of the spear in protecting our combat forces and our nation," Air Force Maj. William Roberts, 341st Training Squadron commander, said at a ceremony at Lackland in 2011 to honor military working dog handlers fallen in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. "They walk ahead of the patrols searching for planted explosives," he said. "They enter the unknown searching for threats, and they confront danger and restore order." As of mid-April, 11 Marines were among the 23 dog handlers killed in action, according to squadron officials.

Pierce, who has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan three times, said he and his military working dog worked "out in front with the squad as we're going through, searching for improvised explosive devices, just making sure they don't miss anything."

Sutherland has been deployed once, in Iraq. "These dogs on deployment become like family, they're like your best friend. It's 24/7. You sleep with them, eat with them," he said. He was able to adopt the dog he deployed with. "I got a really close bond with that dog, and it's just great. Her name's Iireland." A Belgian Malinois, now 10 years old, she was bred in the Lackland puppy program, denoted by the double letters in her name.

Sutherland said he loves his job. "Where else can you work and get paid to interact with dogs and teach dogs things and just train every day for certain situations. It's a blast."

In Iraq, Sutherland and Iireland led patrols, searching for IEDs. She was retired because she has degenerative spine disease. Military working dogs can work as long as they can fulfill their responsibilities. At MCB Hawaii, the K-9 unit has dogs that are as old as 12 years, Pierce told the schoolchildren at Mokapu.

The dogs' precision performance impressed one youngster at Mokapu so much that he asked Pierce, "Can you train my dog?" The chief trainer smiled and said, "I probably could, but I have to focus on these dogs."

"The (military working) dog is going to bite whatever is moving – an arm, the back," Pierce cautioned the students at Mokapu. "We have a couple of dogs that can jump on your back. It's actually awesome to see that."

Pierce said: "These dogs are trained to bite and hold. The moral of the story is don't ever run from a (military working) dog."

**Christopher LeFebvre, of Kaneohe, a civilian with the Military Police at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, fends off an attack from a Belgian Malinois, under the command of dog handler Cpl. Katherine Quartaro, a native of Rochester, N.Y., during a demonstration in the field near the Provost Marshal's Office at MCB Hawaii, March 27.**

**Christopher LeFebvre, of Kaneohe, a civilian dog handler encased in a "marshmallow suit," confronts two military working dogs, a Belgian Malinois and a black German shepherd, which gripped his arms despite his twirling around and around like a carousel, in a K-9 unit demonstration for children at Mokapu Elementary School, April 5. Sgt. Daniel Pierce, not shown, chief trainer for the K-9 unit at the Provost Marshal's Office here, served as the "ringmaster" for a performance showcasing the dogs' training "to bite and hold" a suspect. Pierce said the dogs will bite anything that moves, whether it is an arm, a leg or someone's back.**

**Cpl. Katherine Quartaro, a dog handler at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and native of Rochester, N.Y., holds back a Belgian Malinois during a demonstration in the field near the Provost Marshal's Office at MCB Hawaii, March 27. She said getting bitten comes with the territory. "You just have to use your training to deal with it when it comes," she said.**

**Looking as happy as a chihuahua with a chew toy, a German shepherd military working dog takes a firm grip on a thickly padded sleeve he had wrested from his human target during a demonstration in the field near the Provost Marshal's Office here, March 27.**

# 'Island Warriors' graduate from scout skiers training

**Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

**MOUNTAIN WARFARE TRAINING CENTER, BRIDGEPORT, Calif.** — Marines from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, graduated from scout skier training conducted at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., April 10.

Staff Sgt. Richard Sweetman, a scout skier chief with MWTC and native of Bremerton, Wash., said the 21-day course teaches Marines how to serve as scouts for their company or battalion.

"Scout skiers fall under the command of mountain leaders, which are usually sergeants, staff sergeants, lieutenants and captains," Sweetman said. "The scout skiers themselves are usually private first classes to first lieutenants. All of these Marines together pave the way for the battalion by surveying the area, for whatever the mission at hand is."

Sweetman said the instructors focus on teaching Marines to select routes that avoid avalanches and set up over watch for mountain movements. They conducted avalanche training, how to rescue an avalanche victim, set and prevent ambushes and conduct site survey for patrol bases in snow-covered environments through deception and concealment.

"The stress is to teach them over-the-snow mobility, like how to ski and use snow shoes, and route selections," Sweetman said. "What they learn is not normal land navigation. They need to know why they pick certain routes, how long it will take and how many breaks they will need. The key for them is to get there and be able to fight once they arrive."

The Island Warriors were chosen for training according to their physical fitness test scores.

"Marines are welcome to volunteer," Sweetman said. "But because of the altitude and the loads they have to carry, they need to score a first class PFT, unadjusted for age or altitude."

The scout skiers train at altitudes averaging 9,000 feet, with packs weighing between 25 and 80 pounds.

Lance Cpl. Vincent DeLuca, a team leader for third platoon, Echo Company, and native of Pensacola, Fla., said the training has been hard, especially going up hill with the weight they carry.

"When you have an 80-pound pack on, it's hard to walk, period," DeLuca said. "Then you add in sinking into the snow and moving a certain way with skis on, it's even more difficult. But practicing helps, and talking to the other guys in my company helps since we are all going through this together."

Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi | Hawaii Marine

**Marines with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, conduct avalanche rescue victim training saving a dummy during scout skiers course at Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., April 8.**

DeLuca said the training has been beneficial, especially for future deployments.

"If we enter a war with a mountainous environment, our job as scout skiers is to go out in the mountains in front of the battalion and set up their best route," DeLuca said. "We go up and provide over watch, similar to what guardian angels do."

Lance Cpl. Joseph DeMarco, a team leader for first platoon, Echo Co., and native of Lincoln Park, N.J., said skiing with a tactical mindset has been difficult, due to always moving and remaining quiet.

"We are trying to do our job, which is patrolling or setting up an ambush, and skiing interferes," DeMarco said. "But snow is so much easier to dig in than dirt. As far as using this training in the future, I think our battalion can use us to their advantage. From the mountains, we can provide information on terrain and enemy positions."

Pfc. Eli DeograciaTorres, a radio operator with Headquarters and Service Company and native of College Park, Md., said the best part was the instructors' training style.

"The instructors wouldn't try to hold our hands through the training," DeograciaTorres said. "They would come to make sure we were doing well, but they trusted that we were doing our job."

"We hit the requirement of any clime, any place," Sweetman said. "People tend to shut down in mountain weather, and with these guys being trained here, they can rise up and be those leaders and get the mission accomplished. When they return to their unit, they will be the leaders when it comes to movements because of their drive and morale. They will feel it, too."

## *WATER, from A-1*

get on the same page with the mission as a whole."

Deploying the boom started with a sailor throwing a rope connected to the boom off the dock and onto the boat, where a sailor attached the boom to the back of the boat. Once the boom was attached, the boat guided the boom around the affected part of the ocean to contain the waste.

From start to finish, sailors on shore and the boat stayed in direct communication with each other.

Hazardous material was not used during the training exercise. Instead, sailors used sticks, leaves and dirt to simulate hazardous material in the water.

Sailors on the dock managing the boom reel released it into the water, connecting additional 100-foot sections as needed to surround the contaminated area.

The platform boat also had a boom reel of its own on board in the event a spill was not accessible from land.

"The boom can be taken anywhere our boats can reach," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Bryan Pentland, the petty officer in charge of the training exercise and native of Washington, Pa. "We are training to respond quickly and contain hazardous material in the ocean."

Once the boom surrounded the area, sailors connected three anchors to the boom to keep it in place while the hazardous material was removed.

The training gave sailors an opportunity to become familiar with the boats, boom reel and vacuum truck. All of those tools are used to clean contaminated water. If one of those tools isn't used correctly, the whole operation will fail.

Once the "contaminated" water was captured, sailors drove a vacuum truck to the edge of the dock. They attached a hose to the truck, which sucked up the dirty water.

If a spill occurs where the vacuum truck can't reach, Waterfront Ops has a boat with similar capabilities giving them the ability to manage spills anywhere around the island.

"Keeping the water clean is a huge part of what we do here at Waterfront Ops," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Anthony Cain, an engineman and native of Sacramento, Calif. "The training not only allows sailors new to the unit to be familiarized with the boom and how our unit operates together, but helps them realize how important protecting the environment is to our mission."

Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Anthony Cain, an engineman with Waterfront Operations here on Marine Corps Base Hawaii and native of Sacramento, Calif., pulls the boom into place before it is anchored down during boom training in Kaneohe Bay, April 11.**

Hawaii Marine
# Sports & Health
April 19, 2013
Volume 44, Number 15
www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil

Marines with the Single Marine and Sailor Program on Marine Corps Base Hawaii pose at the top of the Kuliouou Trail during a hike in Hawaii Kai, Sunday. Lush, green jungle plants covered the base of the mountain, while vegetation near the top resembled the woods of the northeastern United States.

# Single Marines enjoy weekend excursion on Kuliouou trail

**Story and photos by**
**Cpl. James A. Sauter**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

**HAWAII KAI, Hawaii —** Winding around the face of a mountainside stretching more than 2,000 feet high into the sky, Marines stationed at Marine Corps Base Hawaii followed the narrow dirt path of the Kuliouou Trail during a Single Marine and Sailor Program hike in Hawaii Kai, Sunday.

Approximately 40 Marines gathered outside the Kahuna's Sports Bar and Grill on base before departing on a 30-minute trip to the trail. Upon arriving, the Marines made their way up the 2.5-mile trail to reach the mountain summit. Travelers on the trail hiked on a path barely three to four feet wide. The path was covered with dirt, exposed tree roots and shrouded by a dense jungle canopy.

"I found out about the hike when I visited the (Kahuna's Sports Bar and Grill) and saw a flier on the wall," said Lance Cpl. Caleb Rapp, a heavy equipment specialist with Marine Wing Support Detachment 24 and native of Williams, Iowa. "I just arrived here a few days ago, and I'm eager to see Hawaii. I thought the view from the top was neat because we were practically in a cloud."

As the Marines followed the zigzagging trail, a clear view of the mountain's base became obscured in thick vog, a weather condition created by Oahu's high humidity level and ash from volcanic eruptions from the island of Hawaii.

One of the most noticeable aspects of the hike was the change in foliage with the increase in elevation. The base of the mountain was covered in lush, green jungle plants, while vegetation near the top resembled the woods of the northeastern United States. One of the most interesting phenomenons during the hike was a tree formation that formed a natural archway, giving hikers an exit out of the pine trees.

Marines with the Single Marine and Sailor Program snake up a mountainside along the Kuliouou Trail during a hike in Hawaii Kai, Sunday. The trail itself was barely three to four feet wide for the first mile and a half and covered with dirt, exposed tree roots and shrouded by a dense jungle canopy.

"The most difficult part of the hike has to be those awful stairs," said Sgt. Claudy Louis, a canoneer section chief with 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment and native of Miami, Fla. "By the time I reached the top, my legs were killing me."

Before reaching the last 200 feet to the top, the Marines navigated up a flight of stairs that gives any hiker a decent leg workout. After reaching the top, they had a chance to see a panoramic view of Waimanalo. Looking out toward Waimanalo, the group could see the distinct turtle-shaped crater of Mokapu Peninsula and the runway at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows.

Once everyone caught their breath and took photos, the hikers made their way down the trail, reaching the bottom in less than an hour. The trip ended with lunch at the Koko Marina in Hawaii Kai and a safe return to base.

"The view from the top definitely made the hike worth it, despite those stairs," said Pvt. Erick Cronkhite, a rifleman with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, and native of Morongo Valley, Calif. "I'm excited to go on the upcoming Single Marine and Sailor events and see more of the island."

# SPORTS, COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**K-Bay Pop Warner Youth Tackle Football and Competition Cheer registration**

K-Bay Pop Warner Youth Tackle Football and Competition Cheer registration for the 2013-14 season will take place today from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. Registration will take place at Waikulu Community Center today and Mololani Community Center on Saturday. We provide youth tackle football, and cheer for kids ages 5 to 15. The group is also looking for motivated coaches and volunteers. For details, visit http://www.patriotsnation.us.

**HPU hosts 29th annual Intercultural Day Parade**

Hawaii Pacific University will celebrate its 29th annual Intercultural Day today on upper Fort Street Mall in Honolulu. Intercultural Day transforms Fort Street Mall into a dynamic cultural marketplace with interactive exhibits, activities, a parade and cultural performances, and is free and open to the public.

Exhibits will open at 8:30 a.m., displaying the diversity of HPU's student body throughout the day. The parade begins at 11 a.m., with many students dressed in traditional country attire as they carry banners and flags representing their home countries through downtown Honolulu. Cultural performances by various student groups begin at 1 p.m., with dances and music from around the world. For more information, email Jessica Walz, HPU's special event coordinator, at jwalz@hpu.edu.

**Hawaii Pacific University to host concerts**

Hawaii Pacific University is holding a series of spring concerts in the Hawaii community, showcasing the talent of its music ensembles. A diverse journey of styles from Byrd to Bowie, courtesy of the symphonic band, caps the series.

The free "Music Down in My Soul" concert, featuring the International Vocal Ensemble and Chorale, is scheduled for April 26, at 7 p.m. at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Honolulu. For more information, contact Esther Yoo, director of choral activities, at 544-1127 or email eyoo@hpu.edu.

The free concert "Heavy and Light: from Byrd to Bowie" featuring the HPU Symphonic Band is scheduled at Roosevelt High School Auditorium in Honolulu, April 27 at 7 p.m. Contact Joseph Ruszkowski at 544-0891 or email jruszkowski@hpu.edu for more information about this concert.

**Earth Day beach cleanup of Pyramid Rock and North Beach**

Sustainable Coastlines invites you to celebrate Earth Day by participating in a special cleanup project of Pyramid Rock and North Beach. All who live and work aboard the installation are welcome to volunteer Saturday at 8:30 a.m. For more information contact Tristan Cummins at 748-9353, or Tristan@sustainablecoastlineshawaii.org.

**Summer swim lesson registration**

Summer swim lesson registration starts May 4. Stop by the base pool to sign up for a summer of swimming. Group lessons, private lessons, keiki water safety and junior lifeguarding camps are available throughout the summer, from June 3 to Sept 1. Call 254-7655 for more information.

**21st annual Haleiwa Metric Century Ride**

The 21st annual Haleiwa Metric Century Ride is April 28 at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 735-5766 or visit http://www.hbl.org.

**Earth Day Expo**

The Earth Day Expo returns to Mokapu Mall on Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition to educational resources and environmental displays, there will be free drawings throughout the event for great prizes. On-site entertainment will include a keiki craft corner and live performances. For a complete list of vendors, activities, visit http://www.mccshawaii.com/earthday.

**Sex Signals**

In observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Catharsis Productions and the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program is hosting "Sex Signals," an improvisational show which encourages discussion about sexual assault. Thursday at the base theater for two shows, at 8 and 10 a.m., and Pollack Theater at Camp H.M. Smith at 2 p.m. Call 257-7777 for more information.

# Awareness in April

Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

**Brenda Huntsinger, sexual assault prevention and response program manager with Marine Corps Community Services, chats with Chief Petty Officer Rodney Love, training chief at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, at the base commissary, Monday. Huntsinger and Florence Yamashita, an education and prevention specialist for the Family Advocacy Program at Marine and Family Programs, passed out information, pinwheels and other items in support of National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month, both observed in April.**

# Keiki Aloha Expo features resources, workshops

**Kristen Wong**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Families emerged from base housing, drivers slowed their cars and children returning home from school waved as Marine Corps Community Services staff and supporters stirred up the neighborhood with music, pinwheels and smiles in support of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, April 12.

Participants kicked off the second annual Keiki Aloha Expo through a "Pinwheels for Prevention Walk," accompanied by music from the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Party Band, and an escort car from the Provost Marshal's Office. Upon reaching Riseley Field, participants tied colored pinwheels to the fence overlooking G Street and returned to Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course for the main event.

The expo, hosted by New Parent Support Program, featured more than 40 vendors and on and off-base organizations in the Fairways Ballroom. More than 100 members of the base community stopped by throughout the afternoon to chat with representatives and gather information.

"It was a great opportunity for Marine and Navy families to meet the providers of military and civilian services and resources face to face," said Diane Whitcomb, manager of NPSP. "The workshops were informative and fun. There was something for everyone."

By visiting each of the organizations, which included the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, the Substance Abuse Counseling Center and Easter Seals Hawaii, attendees had the opportunity to win door prizes. As attendees visited each of the booths, representatives at each booth stamped their card. While parents received information on various products and services, their children received stickers, pinwheels and other treats.

"It's given me a lot more knowledge," said attendee Heather Shalosky, who visited several of the displays.

Shalosky, who is a first-time mother of a 5-month-old, said the expo gave her good tips such as recommendations for the right type of baby food.

In addition to the displays, workshops provided families with information on topics such as breastfeeding, sign language and child behavior.

During the sign language workshop, families received a quick lesson with Signing Time Academy Hawaii. Katrina Pasion, a certified baby signing time instructor from Signing Time Academy Hawaii, taught a few hand symbols representing various animals while reading "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?"

Two of the workshops featured two specialists; Josh Fouts, a board certified behavior analyst of Hawaii Behavior Analysts, who provided strategies to combat child misbehavior, and Emily McCloskey, a certified lactation educator with NPSP, who shared the benefits of breastfeeding. The last workshop was a "Parent-Child Circle Time," which gave parents the opportunity to play games with their children using musical instruments, scarves and a colorful parachute.

While attendees visited the booths, even representatives behind the displays took advantage of the expo.

Monique Visocky came to the expo to help present information about the NPSP Breastfeeding Support Group, but she also participated in the sign language workshop. Visocky said the expo had a lot of interesting information, but she was particularly interested in learning baby sign language, and until now had not found a good outlet to learn.

Oriana Newkamp, who attended the baby sign language class with her child, particularly appreciated the expo because it was conveniently on base, and she doesn't always get the opportunity to head off base for resources and services.

"It's a nice resource for us to come and learn about vendors," Newkamp said.

For information about NPSP or any of the organizations from the expo, call 257-8803.

Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

**Jonathan Barkley (left), the alcohol abuse prevention specialist for MCB Hawaii, chats with Amber Snelson, her husband and son during the Keiki Aloha Expo, at the Fairways Ballroom, April 12.**

Hawaii Marine
Lifestyles

April 19, 2013
Volume 44, Number 15
www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil

A piece of artwork is made of recycled bottle caps pasted together by children near Riseley Field at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Tuesday. The finished piece will go on display during the Earth Day Expo, Saturday to show the creativity of the children who attended "Eco-Friendly In the Park."

# Kids create eco-friendly art aboard MCB Hawaii

**Story and photos by**
**Lance Cpl. Matthew Bragg**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Rags of clothing became knotted bags and empty cups from newspaper transformed into potted plants as children crafted usable items out of old recycled materials at "Eco-Friendly In the Park," Tuesday.

Marine Corps Community Services hosted the event, giving children the opportunity to create arts and crafts using items that have been or could be recycled, part of a free, month-long series at Riseley Field.

"A child's imagination is very creative, and they just let their imagination flow free," said Estella Euclide, a program specialist with the base's Marine and Family Programs. "We want the kids to see their art come to life."

The children learned about various methods of recycling. They glued bottle caps to artworks of a fish and a sea turtle, making them visually vibrant.

"The kids (used) their own creativity to make a giant piece of art out of recycled bottle caps," said Troy Euclide, director of the Family Readiness Branch. "The finished art will go on display at the Earth Day (Expo)."

Other activities included creating bags made from donated T-shirts, and potting plants in cups made of old newspapers. The children were taught how to plant the tree after they take it home.

"We enjoy hosting events like these that really get kids involved with each other and what's going on," Troy Euclide said. "They work together on these little projects and form friendships with one another."

Children not only connected with each other through "Eco-Friendly In the Park," but parents became acquainted as well, providing hands-on help for their kids as they chatted with each other.

**A young boy holding a bottle cap extends his arm out to receive a drop of glue from one of the volunteers so he can glue it to the artwork during an event near Riseley Field at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Tuesday. This was one of the events held during "Eco-Friendly In the Park," which gave children an opportunity to create arts and crafts out of recyclables.**

"This is the first event we've attended," said Navy spouse Billie George. "I heard about this event through MCCS, and I've met so many nice people here. It's a really great program."

Amidst the crowd of children at the event, volunteers helped kids make paper hats with feathers and provided glue for kids to assemble the bottle-cap artwork.

"I was just passing by, and I saw this event and decided to help out," said Milena Medina, a volunteer whose husband is a Marine who is with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. " I absolutely love working with children, and this event allowed me to do just that."

"In the Park" is held every Tuesday this month featuring different activities for families to enjoy. The series included April observances recognizing military children, autism and child abuse prevention.

The next event, "Fitness In the Park," will offer exercise and health activities at Riseley Field from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information, call 257-0372.

**A young girl glues a feather to a paper hat at one of the "Eco-Friendly In the Park" stations near Riseley Field at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Tuesday. All materials used were either recycled or donated.**

**A young boy points to the roots of a plant he is preparing to receive during the "Eco-Friendly In the Park" event near Riseley Field at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Tuesday. Children took the plants home in cups made of newspaper.**

**Children and volunteers glue bottle caps onto both pieces of artwork. Both finished pieces will go on display during the Earth Day Expo, Saturday.**

# Headquarters Battalion hosts barbecue competition

**Lance Cpl. Janelle Y. Chapman**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Long before the sun rose above the Headquarters Battalion parking lot, competitors were slow-roasting their tastiest dishes to prepare for the unit's barbecue competition, April 12.

Sgt. Vince Everett, computer repair specialist with Headquarters Bn., started cooking his delectable brisket at 4:30 a.m. He took charge of his team and entered in each of the three competition categories, including chicken, pork ribs, and beef brisket. This is Everett's second barbecue but his first time competing.

"The Marines and sailors love it," Everett said. "Whether they have been in six months or 26 years, they enjoy the family barbeques and get-togethers. It's kind of a welcome and a goodbye, for Marines and sailors coming and going."

Families cooked and ate while children played beanbag games. Each team in the competition had their own tent and charcoal grill, or a multitude of grills set up in the parking lot. There were approximately 13 teams, some participating in all three categories while others chose to participate in one, or two.

Everett explained the barbecue helps everyone spend time with each other in their shops, but on a more personal level by cooking and eating some delicious food — all in the spirit of good competition.

The competitors couldn't use gas grills, and an entry in each category had to be done at a certain time for judging. A first place winner and a runner-up were chosen for each category, receiving various prizes, including a beach grill for first place, and stainless steel utensils for runner-ups.

Three professional chefs from different restaurants on Oahu, like Triple C's Smoke House and Grill. These chefs determined the winners after sampling each entry and deciding which ones made their taste buds go wild.

"We judge it on texture, presentation, how it's cut, taste, if it's soft, if it's burnt or not burnt," said Claude Crawford, a judge and owner of Triple C's Smoke House and Grill.

The finger-licking entrees were brought to the judges in closed plastic take-out food containers. The judges looked at each entry and judged on the presentation. Many of the teams had their special sauces and seasonings at hand as they hoped they would win and be called the best barbecuer in the battalion.

Lance Cpl. Janelle Y. Chapman | Hawaii Marine

**Lance Cpl. Durran Goodwin, a legal services support clerk with Headquarters Battalion, shows off his beef brisket at the Headquarters Bn. barbecue competition, April 12.**

"You can see how some of them take their grilling seriously," said Capt. Mike Kline, service company commander for Headquarters Bn.

The first place winner for the chicken category was the Anderson Hall Dining Facility and the runner-up the Legal Beagles. First place in the pork rib category was the Anderson Hall Dining Facility and runner-up was Grill Instructors with the Installation Personnel Administration Center. First place in the beef brisket category was Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 and runner-up was the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Band.

"It's an opportunity for Marines and sailors to come out and show their barbecue recipe skills," Kline said. "It's a laid back experience and a more person to person basis outside the workplace."

# Two MCBH girls to be honored at fundraiser

**Kristen Wong**
*Marine Corps Base Hawaii*

Aurora Kimball and Haley Tyrrell are the best of friends. They enjoy playing with Barbie dolls and pretending to be Disney princesses. The 9-year-olds live aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, but they met each other in an unlikely place — the hospital.

In 2009, doctors found a medulloblastoma, (tumor) in Tyrrell's brain, and in 2011, Kimball was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The girls met at Tripler Army Medical Center, and today, they continue to fight cancer. Kimball and Tyrrell will be honored guests at this Sunday's fundraiser for St. Baldrick's Foundation at Dave and Buster's in Honolulu at 1 p.m.

It's estimated that more than 11,000 children younger than 15 years old will be diagnosed with a form of cancer in 2013, according to the American Cancer Society. But this year, more than 50,000 people across the nation and other countries are raising money to help fund research to stop cancer in its tracks.

St. Baldrick's Foundation, a Monrovia, Calif.-based nonprofit organization, has funded research for childhood cancer since 2004. Each year the organization encourages people in the community to shave their heads completely bald while raising funds for childhood cancer.

"We shave because kids with cancer often lose their hair during treatment, and we stand proudly bald beside them," the foundation's website reads.

The families of both girls have participated in the head-shaving fundraiser in previous years. Tyrrell's family was also featured in the Hawaii Marine in April 2012.

"St. Baldrick's is the only organization that (directly) funds pediatric cancer research," said Aurora's mother, Tonya Kimball. "Although the others are great, worthy causes, the majority (of the funding goes) to adults. Aurora and Haley have benefited from the research. It's such an impactful event (and) a worthy cause. This is what's keeping our kids here."

Tonya Kimball said her daughter was diagnosed the weekend of the inaugural Hawaii head-shaving fundraiser. The family had only been stationed in Hawaii for four months when Aurora started to experience bone pain, a fever, and at one point, couldn't walk.

"We benefited from the research that is funded by this organization," Tonya Kimball said. "We always want to be a part of it."

Navy Lt. Ben Mathis, the current base chaplain, has joined Aurora's team and will be shaving his head at the fundraiser on Sunday.

"I have watched Aurora go through two years of treatment," Mathis said. "She has bravely submitted to all of her treatments which we all hope will cure her of acute lymphoblastic leukemia. As you can imagine, she has had some really sick days and some really great days. In spite of it all, she continues to persevere and savor life."

Because of her condition, Aurora has missed many days at school due to numerous medical appointments.

"It sucks that I can't play rough with my family, like wrestle with my daddy," Aurora said. "I feel sick and I feel tired when I have my chemotherapy and my lumbar punctures."

Despite her condition, Aurora makes time for fun activities like playing golf, playing with Tyrrell, or drawing her favorite animals. According to her father, she knows how to make people smile.

"When she comes into a room she's always smiling, even through the tough times," Aurora's father said. "We have our sad moments but she's been more positive. You never know what she's going to say … it makes other people laugh, too."

Aurora had more reasons to smile earlier this year as Make-A-Wish Hawaii sent her to the San Diego Zoo to become a junior zookeeper. The young, aspiring veterinarian and animal lover worked with a cheetah specialist and met a cheetah named Shiley. Until then, she had hated white lab coats, because going through chemotherapy meant being around many lab coats. But her perception changed, Mathis said, once she saw the veterinarians at the zoo wearing white lab coats.

Tonya Kimball said more recently her daughter has progressed from sitting out activities to running with her classmates and friends, though not as fast.

"We've come a long way," Tonya Kimball said.