



## News Notes

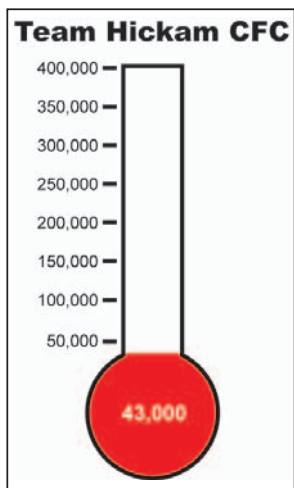
**Joint spouses conference** – The annual joint spouses conference is Oct. 20 and 21 at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii. On-line registration is available from Sept. 8 to Oct. 6, at [www.jsc-hawaii.com](http://www.jsc-hawaii.com). People must sign up in advance as no registrations will be taken at the course. Cost is \$35 to attend both days or \$20 for one day. The course has more than 50 workshops available, including self defense, financial planning and information on space available travel.

**CFC kickoff** – The Combined Federal Campaign kickoff is today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hickam Commissary parking lot. For more information, e-mail [cfc.planning.committee@hickam.af.mil](mailto:cfc.planning.committee@hickam.af.mil).

**Survey** – The Hickam Community Action Team is working to understand how prevalent underage and of age irresponsible drinking are and what alternate activities people would like to see. HCAT has an anonymous survey to understand Hickam's current culture. To participate in the survey, log on to (<https://sps.hickam.af.mil/C16/Hickam%20AFB/Lists/Hickam%20Drinking%20Norms%20Questionnaire/overview.aspx>). The survey is only available on government computers.

**Volunteers needed** – Volunteers are needed to help with the opening of the

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In this week's *Kukini*



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# Sec. Wynne speaks at AF ball

By Senior Airman Anthony Kuhn  
Armed Forces Network

With the theme "Pacific Airmen honor our heritage ... shape our horizons," Pacific Air Forces hosted the 59th Air Force birthday ball Saturday.

Keynote speaker for the event was Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne. Pacific Air Forces commander Gen. Paul V. Hester hosted the sold out event.

"This is one of the largest gatherings I have seen celebrating the birthday of our Air Force. I just want to congratulate all the Airmen, all of our leadership and all the civilians here tonight to basically assist me and General Hester in celebrating the Air Force's 59th birthday,"

the secretary said.

During his address, Secretary Wynne reminded everyone of the expanse of the Pacific region and that PACAF helps provide security so the region can enjoy peace and prosperity, interchange and commerce across an almost boundless ocean.

"I've never had an event where Secretary Wynne or any secretary of the Air Force attended," said Maj. Brad Bistodeau. "It's kind of interesting for me to come out and hear what the secretary has to say."

The evening ended with the Air Force Band of the Pacific playing songs highlighting the Air Force's almost six decades as a separate service.

For more Ball photos, see B1.



Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne thanks the men and women of the Pacific Air Forces during the the Air Force's 59th birthday ball. Photo by Master Sgt. Daniel Nathaniel

## Hickam Airmen train with Indian Air Force

By Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo  
Air Force Print News

After several weeks of impromptu training with their Indian counter parts, Airmen from the 15th Airlift Wing got the chance to reverse the rolls and fly with the Indian Air Force on their IL-76 medium range cargo jet.

The India aircrew's primary mission was to deliver members of the Indian Army to Hawaii for a joint training exercise. While not here specifically to train, it was an opportunity the aircrew couldn't pass up.

"Our basic aim was to make use of the time we have and interact with the Air Force people here because they are operating a similar aircraft," said Wing Commander Shuresh Sivans, Indian Air Force engineering officer.

With the aim of working towards the common goal of peace and stability in the Pacific Region, the 15th Airlift Wing welcomed the Indian Air Force to Hickam, demonstrating U.S. capabilities and techniques in both the preparation and launching of the C-17 Globemaster III.

Joint training whether scheduled or spontaneous keeps Pacific Air Forces focused on their expeditionary skills by teaching Airmen how to better work with and understand coalition partners.

"Once we got past the small communication problems, it was a great opportunity," said Capt. Glenn Kaufman, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintenance operations officer. "What we did allows us to eliminate some of the fog and friction in



Majs. Latimer Neal and Halsey Burks, 15th Operations Support Squadron, receive an Indian IL-76 capabilities briefing during a training mission. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

See INDIAN AF, A5

## SVS fees increase

By Wyoming Rossett  
15th Services Squadron

Several fee increases and operational adjustments will take place in 15th Services Squadron facilities Sunday.

Increasing prices will help the 15th SVS provide quality programs despite fiscal year 2007 appropriated funding shortfalls.

"In order to provide quality services, facilities and to capitally reinvest in our future, Services must make certain adjustments," said Col. J.J. Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander. "Although we are faced with some daunting financial challenges, I believe we've met them head on and minimized the impact to team Hickam. The services team can do this without compromising their track record of excellent customer service."

The Fitness and Sports Center will see three changes. There will now be a \$2 fee for enhanced exercise classes such as yoga, spinning, kickboxing, power pump and other classes offered over and above the 15 weekly core classes required by Air Force Instructions. Also, starting

See FEES, A5

## Trees downed after months-long infestation; HCH urges residents' caution around removal

By Ryan Mielke  
HCH Deputy Asset Manager

The tiniest of newcomers to Hawaii in the last two years.

The gall wasp, is winning the war of survival with its host, the Hawaiian Wiliwili tree, as Hickam Community Housing will complete the removal of 71 of the trees next month.

Last January "The Flight Line" housing magazine reported that the new-to-Hawaii Gall Wasp had attacked many of the trees at Hickam Community Housing. At the same time, arborists, botanists, Universi-

See TREES, A5



A Hickam community housing subcontractor removes a Wiliwili tree from the housing area. These trees have been damaged by gall wasps and must be removed for the safety of housing residents. Photo by Ryan Mielke

## JPAC completes crash site excavation on Oahu

By JPAC Public Affairs

A U.S. military team concluded its excavation in the Ko'olau Mountain range of a crash site believed to be associated with a missing World War II U.S. Navy Reserve aviator recently. The team from the Department of Defense's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, based on Oahu, recovered possible human remains and material evidence.

The operation, which began in July, was the first of its kind conducted in Hawaii. Approximately 80 tons of soil was removed from the remote crash site by helicopter. The soil was then taken by heli-

copter to East Range of Schofield Barracks where it was examined for human remains and evidence of the missing pilot.

Recovered remains and material evidence are now undergoing forensic analysis to identify the victim.

This analysis is expected to take several months.

On June 15, 1944, Ensign Harry Warnke was reported missing after failing to return from a series of aerial dives. Two days later, his unit located the crash site. According to military reports from the time, items and remains from the

See CRASH SITE, A5

# How do you know when it is time to retire?

By Chief Master Sgt. **Joaquin Quitugua**  
735th Air Mobility Squadron

One of my senior noncommissioned officers seeking advice sent me an email asking me, "How do you know when it is time to retire?"

The master sergeant was recently transferred to a unit back in the mainland about a year ago. All was well for him until a recent change of leadership.

From there on, he tells me things have gone downhill, so he is contemplating retirement as soon as he hits his 20 year mark in the Air Force.

My response to him was that sooner or later we all face that inevitable point in our career when we must decide to continue or not. It is a personal decision that no one knows better than you.

However, don't let poor supervision or lack thereof be the cause for you to

retire. That should be more reason for you to stay in. I was in a similar situation a few years back. I didn't think that the troops in my unit were being properly led so I decided to stay around and do my best to make it better for my juniors in rank.

I did not want to leave them hanging. As it turns out, I took care of them and they took care of me, next thing you know I am wearing chief stripes.

Now, let me tell you

about my present unit, the 735th Air Mobility Squadron.

My aircraft maintainers are the best in the business, with an outstanding rating in their last inspection, my senior NCOs are the most knowledgeable and professional individuals

I have ever worked with, and I have the pleasure of working with two of the finest officers in the Air Force. We took the last commander's trophy and

we're on the run for it again so look out Hickam! Promotion rate is high for us, and we're doing rather well on base level awards ... Life is good.

I realize that there is a lot of bragging on the previous paragraph.

I would love to take credit for all the great accomplishments in my squadron but I can't because I didn't do it.

Those who surround me have done it all. My job as a Chief is to make sure

nothing gets on their way. Going back to what the master sergeant asked me, how do we know when is time?

My personal answer is when we have done everything in our power to make it better for those who follow us.

I can tell you that today, I would feel comfortable hanging the uniform because my unit is a temple of fine leaders ready to take on the challenges facing our beloved Air Force.

## Look out for each other *Your wingman just might save your life*

By Col. **Brad Ashley**  
72nd Air Base Wing vice commander

The telephone rang and broke the silence of the early morning. I reached for it and realized it was 4:32 a.m.

Being a squadron commander at the time, I had received dozens of late night phone calls. But this one was very, very different. The caller calmly said, "Sir, this is the wing command post and we have a casualty notification."

I was instantly wide awake and unable to imagine a more distressing message.

By 5 a.m. the casualty notification team was formed and the preliminary facts began to filter in – an Air Force member had tragically lost her life in an auto accident and alcohol was a contributing factor.

Thirty minutes later I was on my way to deliver the tragic news to immediate family members. "Sir and ma'am, on behalf of the chief or staff of the Air Force I regret to inform you ..." are the hardest words I have ever had to say.

By 10 a.m., I was at the funeral home identifying the body of a dearly missed Air Force member, a co-worker and a wonderful young person. Her lifeless body was a mere shell of the vibrant young person that just days before smiled at me and said, "Hello sir, how's your day going?"

The following day, family and friends began to travel to the base. The chapel staff, co-workers and I did all that we could to help her family deal with all of the difficulties inherent in this type of

tragedy, while hopefully continuing to provide some measure of comfort.

Co-workers and the base population were stunned at the news.

Plans were made for a memorial service with our superb chapel staff and top-notch honor guard. I can still feel the icy chill of air rushing over us as the doors flung open for the 21-gun salute. It is a memory that will forever be etched in my mind. I will also never be able to forget the tears in her mother's eyes as I delivered the urn and remains to the family.

The most tragic aspect of this story is that it could have been avoided.

This young lady was offered a ride home by two of her squadron wingmen who noticed she had too much to drink. She told them she was not about to drive in her condition and that she had arrangements for a hotel room nearby.

Within a couple of hours and a few more alcoholic beverages, she attempted a long drive home. She never made it – partly because she did not listen to her wingmen and take their help when offered.

Don't let this happen to you. Don't become a victim. Even if a DUI driver escapes the risk of severe injury and death, DUIs carry extreme financial penalties and are devastating to lives and careers.

You can make a difference.

Think – have a plan before you drink.

Call a friend, co-worker or boss for a ride home. Believe me when I say I'd much rather visit a bar at night than a morgue the next day.

## Every Airman an ambassador

By Staff Sgt. **Angela Shepherd**  
4th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Most Airmen, regardless of rank or Air Force specialty code, have been asked by a family member or a civilian at one point or another: "So, what type of airplane do you fly?"

That happens because many people don't know much about the military. They assume because we're in the Air Force, and the Air Force flies planes, we all must be pilots.

That same kind of mentality leads to community citizens thinking the entire Air Force is bad just because they had one bad experience with one Airman downtown or saw one Airman do something foolish. Whether they see the Airman speeding, driving erratically, littering, blaring his or her music, acting rude and disrespectful to someone, or acting out in some other way, they automatically assume the worst about the rest of us.

When you're in the military, it's easy for a civilian to pick you out of the crowd, even if you're not in uniform. Several things give us away: the Defense Department decal on our windshields, our out-of-state license plates, our haircuts, our Air Force decorative stickers on our cars, even just the way we carry ourselves. They know who we are. So don't think you're not identifiable as an Airman just because you're not in uniform.

And protecting our image is crucial to our success. A big part of any military unit's success comes from the support it receives from the community.

Fortunately in many communities,

“ Your base probably has a great relationship with the community. Don't jeopardize what past and current generations have worked so hard for by acting foolish. ”

there is a great relationship. A lot of that comes through the programs that bring base and community leaders together, allowing them to get to know and understand each other.

But not every regular citizen gets to see the base, learn its mission and meet military people like their leaders do, so that's why our behavior in the community is so important.

We need to keep in mind that while, yes, we pump a lot into their economy, we are the guests here. They are the ones who are gracious enough to have us, to put up with the loud jet noise, and to tolerate our middle-of-the-night war games.

Think about it this way. If you were staying with a friend's family, relative or someone else, would you act like an idiot or would you be polite?

Your base probably has a great relationship with the community. Don't jeopardize what past and current generations have worked so hard for by acting foolish.

## Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first.

If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response.

I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

### Obscene phone call

Comment: I received an

obscene phone call Aug. 6. The person did not block their number from appearing on my phone, so I have the number. I gave that number to a friend of mine who is a sergeant with the Chicago Police Department. He was able to tell me that it is a Verizon cell phone from Hickam.

Having grown up in the Air Force, I know how unacceptable such behavior is in the military. I don't know if the person who called is an Air Force member, a dependent, a friend playing a joke on another friend, or if the phone was stolen. I want this matter looked into. Thank you for your assistance.

**Response:** Thank you for bringing this to my attention. Your complaint was forwarded to our security forces investiga-

tions section.

Although you were able to provide the number of the caller, our investigative authorities were unable to identify the person who made the call.

I understand you don't reside in the local area, however, the security forces law enforcement office has been in touch with you and provided you with the information you requested.

Behavior of this nature is unacceptable and if the caller could be identified they would be held accountable for their actions. Thank you again for bringing this to my attention, and I apologize for any undue stress this may have caused you.

If you have additional concerns please don't hesitate to contact the law enforcement office at 448-2320.

## Hickam Diamond Tips

### Setting the example

Often times it is easier for us to walk by an infraction and not correct it.

Unfortunately when we do that, we endorse the negative behavior and allow it to continue. Uphold the standards regardless of your rank or position.

For example: A senior non-commissioned officer walking around housing without a hat sends a message to all others that it is ok to violate Air Force Instruction 36-2903. When the neighbor drives by that same senior NCO without correcting him, he then enforced the negative behavior. Do not allow this in our Air Force.

Questions? Contact your First Sergeant.



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**Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to**  
hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

### Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center  
**449-0300**  
Life Skills Support Center  
**449-0175**  
Law Enforcement Desk  
**449-6373**  
Base Chaplain  
**449-1754**  
Military Family Abuse Shelter  
**533-7125**  
SARC Hotline  
**449-7272**

## Year of the Air Force



Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle signs a proclamation designating Sept. 2006 to Sept. 2007 as United States Air

Force Year in Hawaii. The proclamation honors the traditions, heritage and Airmen of the U.S. Air Force.

Photo by Oscar Hernandez

## Sea Breeze breezes through renovations

By Wyoming Rossett  
15th Services Squadron

Customers of the Sea Breeze Restaurant are once again enjoying the tasty delicacies, open-air ambiance and impeccable service of the popular beach-side eatery.

The restaurant closed Aug. 21 in order to perform essential renovations, but has reopened almost a week ahead of schedule.

"Due to environmental issues, the grease trap interceptors had to be replaced for the main restaurant," said Jim Wolfe, chief of the business operations flight. "This required extensive excavation of the property and replacement of all associated plumbing in the kitchen."

Repairs involving environmental issues cannot be postponed, so the Sea Breeze closed for nearly four weeks

while the Sand Bar and Grill carried on the tradition of seaside dining.

During this downtime, the 15th Services Squadron took the opportunity to enhance the facility with additional restaurant reconstruction. New lighting and ceiling fans were added to the main restaurant as well as the Sand Bar.

The 15th Civil Engineer Squadron took on another long overdue task – building a completely new floor for the main restaurant's lanai.

Meanwhile, Chef Somkid Pengpala of the Sea Breeze took the opportunity to create many new entrees for the dinner menu, and the menu itself was given a new look.

For more information, call 449-9900. To take a three-dimensional virtual tour of the facility at <http://www.hickam-services.com/sea-breeze-restaurant.asp>.

## CE Airmen start wearing new badge

By Kirsten Tacker  
Kukini Photojournalist

Hickam Airmen in the civil engineer readiness career field will begin wearing another occupational badge, Sunday.

The Air Force Chief of Staff approved the wear of a new readiness occupational badge, which reflects achievements garnered by Air Force professionalism in emergency management.

Emergency management includes chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense during war and peace times.

The badge has been adopted from the Army chemical service badge.

During Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, the Air Force recognized there was a need to identify the readiness career field and lobbied for adoption of the insignia.

"The basic design of the badge, modeled after the Army's, signifies an

expertise as a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive defense specialist," said Chief Master Sgt. Steven Reed, 15th Civil Engineering Squadron. "The need came about because of the increase in joint operational environments."

The readiness badge will be worn in addition to the occupational badge and represents the readiness career field members dedication to the critical mission they are faced with daily.

"The use of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear defense agents and the increased possibility of terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction is a real threat," said Chief Reed. "The readiness career field recognizes this threat and acknowledges the serious responsibility we have to organize, train and equip Air Force personnel to prepare, respond and recover from such attacks."

## Airmen add up damage at Wake

By Tech Sgt. Chris Vadnais  
Air Force Print News

After receiving the operational runway "thumb's up," a Hickam C-17 Globemaster III returned last week to Wake Island with a 53-person team of 15th Airlift Wing Airmen, Defense Department employees, and contractors to survey the damage done by Super Typhoon Ioke, Aug. 31.

The category-five storm raged through the atoll with 155 mph winds and 190 mph gusts demolishing buildings and tossing around anything that was not bolted down and many things that were.

It toppled huge satellite dishes, tore appliances from their fixtures and ripped away cables, destroying telephone, network and satellite communication links.

Assessing the damage includes some repair work, and is a mission that calls for the most experienced of civil engineer and communication specialist teams. Airmen from the 15th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 15th Communications Squadron are working around the clock. They were asked to look at the VORTAC, a large beacon-like instrument used in air traffic navigation. They found it, but not where it was supposed to be.

"This right here," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Gartner, 15th Communications Squadron, pointing to a white metal cylinder on the ground, about twelve feet long and four feet in diameter, "...used



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais

A piece of aircraft navigation equipment was blown more than 100 yards from where it used to stand during Super Typhoon Ioke.

to be over there, on top of that building." He pointed to a small concrete structure about 125 yards away. The cylinder had cracked wide open, and several metal spines, once neatly packed inside the cylinder, rested in a crooked pile nearby. "Needless to say, it's going to have to be replaced," he said.

Many of the buildings are repairable, if not already operational. However, there is considerable structural damage to buildings all throughout island. Damage assessments and cost estimates for repair or replacement will be forwarded to Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander.

"I'm proud of the work the assessment team has accomplished to restore operational capability at Wake Island," said Col. J.J. Torres, 15th AW commander. "We're poised to implement whatever course of action the Pacific Air Forces commander directs."

Wake Island is a Pacific Ocean fuel station about 2,300 miles west of Honolulu and 2,000 miles southeast of Tokyo. It serves as a scientific outpost and a midpoint airfield for U.S. military and civilian aircraft flying across the Pacific Ocean. One hundred and eighty-eight residents were safely evacuated on two Hickam C-17s, Aug. 28.

## Communications offers tips to keep home network secure

**Editor's Note:** This is the first article in a three-part series on home network security.

By Staff Sgt. Stuart Wilson  
Pacific Air Forces

Many people probably remember when owning a computer was a luxury rather than a necessity. A decade or so ago only the lucky and the wealthy had a personal computer in their home and a network was something reserved for large corporations.

In today's modern household everyone has to have their own computer. There are one or two systems for the parents and in most cases at least one for the kids to use for homework and games. In that same decade or so home users have gone from no Internet access, to dial-up, and now to broadband connections that rival or match the speedy connections they use at work.

The Internet and the World Wide Web have exploded, replacing traditional forms of media. We now use the Internet to find out the latest news, weather, sports scores, movie times, telephone listings and a million other things.

While the convenience of having access to massive amounts of information may seem like a dream come true, it can pose a problem in a home where multiple computers are trying to share a single Internet connection. Software and hardware vendors have come up with a number of solutions allowing home users to share one

Internet connection among two or more computers. These solutions all have one thing in common – the computers must be networked.

Connecting multiple computers together has traditionally involved a physical connection between them. Most commonly this connection would be made with a phone wire, coaxial cable or the more common category five cable. One of the easiest and cleanest ways to network computers throughout a home is to use wireless technology.

Wireless networks are fairly easy to setup and most come configured right out of the box. The Internet connection comes in from a provider and is connected to a wireless access point or router that broadcasts the signal. Owners connect wireless antenna network cards to their computers to receive that signal and talk back to the wireless access point and they are in business.

An important thing to remember with a wireless network is the signal is broadcast and with that it is difficult to contain where that signal may travel. If the signal can get from downstairs in a home office to upstairs in a bedroom then it can also go that same 75 feet to a neighbor's living room. A hacker searching for unsecured

wireless connections can get into a person's systems from a car parked on the street.

Before protesting the unfairness of someone taking a free ride on someone's connection to the information highway there are ways to protect a wireless network. And while these tactics aren't fail-safe, they will make it more difficult for curious seekers to get into someone's personal information.

Change the system ID: Devices come with a default system ID called the service set identifier. It is easy for a hacker to find out what the default identifier is for each manufacturer of wireless equipment, so users need to change this to something else. People should use something unique, not personal information like their street address in their ID. That's too revealing to strangers – try random numbers or characters instead.

Turn off SSID: If the users access point allows for it, they should turn off SSID broadcasting altogether. This prevents strangers from passively scanning the area and receiving their network's broadcasts. Check the manual for the hardware and learn how to disable broadcasting.



Enable encryption: Wired equivalent privacy and wi-fi protected access encrypt data so only the intended recipient is supposed to be able to read it.

Restrict unnecessary traffic: Many wired and wireless routers have built-in firewalls. They are not the most technically advanced firewalls, but they help create one more line of defense. Read the manual for the hardware and learn how to configure the router to only allow incoming or outgoing traffic that has been approved.

Change the default administrator password: This is just good practice for all hardware and software. The default passwords are easily obtained and because so many people don't bother to take the simple step of changing them they are usually what hackers try first. Make sure to change the default password on the wireless router and access point to something that is not easily guessed.

Patch and protect computers: As a last line of defense owners should have personal firewall software and anti-virus software installed on their computer. As important as installing the anti-virus software, they must keep it up to date. New viruses are discovered daily and anti-virus software vendors generally release updates at least once a week. Users must also keep up to date with patches for known security vulnerabilities. Users can use Windows Update for Microsoft operating systems to try and help keep them current with patches.

# Utterback visits 15th Airlift Wing



Photos by Angela Elbern

Above: Master Sgt. Michael Pitts, 15th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal, shows Maj. Gen. Loyd Utterback, Pacific Air Forces deputy commander, an M-4 rifle during his visit to Team Hickam.  
Right: General Utterback meets Airmen from the 15th Logistics Readiness Squadron during his visit.  
Below: The general talks with Airmen from various squadrons for a coffee break at the dining facility.



**INDIAN AF, From A1**

case we ever have to forward deploy together.”

Since their arrival, the Indian Air Force watched ground crews launch aircraft and participated in a C-17 mission. This time the students became the teachers and they gladly took the opportunity to show the Airmen from the wing their IL-76 cargo jet.

Even though the Russian made IL-76 isn't as new as the American C-17 and has a

crew of seven compared to a crew of three, the Indians are proud of their aircraft.

“Today we had a great opportunity to come here, do a mission planning, and get airborne in U.S. airspace with our friends from the U.S. Air Force,” said Wing Commander P. S. Arora, Indian Air Force pilot. “We showed them what our aircraft can do.”

Maj. Halsey Burks, 15th AW chief of plans and pro-

grams, agreed.

“It was a really neat experience, a once in a lifetime chance,” he said. “I don't know that any of us will ever get the chance to fly on a Russian-built aircraft again.”

Successful training like this brings Airmen from two different nations closer together, strengthening the bond between coalition partners in the Pacific, and they look forward to more training opportunities in the future.

**TREES, From A1**

ty of Hawaii scientists and entomologists were trying desperately to fend off the insect, thought to have been a stowaway aboard a Taiwanese ship in April 2005, from devastating Wiliwili trees on all islands.

To date, a solution has not been found. As a result, many communities and City and County officials are finding, the gall wasp, though not much larger than a gnat, is winning its battle of survival with the Wiliwili. At HCH, the wasp has so badly ravaged Wiliwili trees that the trees' condition requires removal. Each of these trees, however, will be

replaced within HCH, though not of the same variety.

“As much as we dislike ever having to cut down trees, this is something that cannot be avoided,” said Rick Cunefare, HCH director of property management. “Whenever trees are unrecoverable it becomes necessary to remove them, as they can be unsafe.”

He noted that the trees being removed are all determined to be beyond any chance of survival, having sustained too much damage from the wasp.

The wasp does its damage by laying eggs in the leaves

of this typically lush tree causing the leaves to shrivel or gall, and prevents further leaf growth, which keeps the tree from breathing. According to a September 2005 story in “The Maui News,” the gall wasp had never been heard of until 2004 when it was described as a new species in Singapore and on two remote islands in the Indian Ocean near Madagascar. Later in 2004, it was found in Taiwan and, as seen as April 2005, was recent on Oahu. Residents of Kauai, the Big Island and Maui, all reported the wasp within days of each other in late July 2005.

**JPAC, From A1**

wreckage were collected and buried at the site shortly before Wamke's unit left the island to support World War II efforts.

In 1999, Joint Task Force-Full Accounting personnel located the remnants of the aircraft bringing the case to the attention of investigators at the Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii. JTF-FA merged with the Central Identification Laboratory-Hawaii in 2003 creating JPAC.

Environmental challenges and fiscal constraints postponed the recovery until this year.

**NOTES, From A1**

Pacific Aviation Museum. The first volunteer meetings are Oct. 7 and 21 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Bowfin and then every week at the museum until it opens. For more information, contact Kathryn Budde-Jones at 808-836-7747.

**Voting hotline** – The Installation Voting Office voting hotline is 448-2310. People should call this hotline or contact their unit voting assistance counselor for the Federal postcard application. All feder-

al postcard applications should be mailed by today to receive absentee ballot materials in time for the Nov. 7 election.

**Boofest** – Boofest, a Halloween festival at Bellows Air Force Station, is Oct. 13 and 14 from 6 to 10 p.m. The event includes a costume contest, food, face painting and a bouncy castle. Presale tickets are available at Bellows and Hickam information tickets and travel office. For more information, call 259-4121.

**FEES, From A1**

Sunday, towel services will no longer be offered. The Fitness and Sports Center will also make significant adjustments to the intramural sports program.

Even with these new fees, the Hickam Fitness and Sports Center remains competitive with commercial fitness clubs on the Island. Dues at these facilities can range from \$40 to \$65 per month plus another \$150 for initiation and processing fees.

Midnight meals will no longer be served at the Hale Aina Dining Facility and carry-out meals will only be available to on-duty meal card holders.

The Base Library is also affected. The facility hours will be adjusted including closing on Sundays and Mondays.

Our golf courses have been subjected to higher operating costs. According to Mr. Jim Wolfe, 15th Services Squadron Business Operations Flight Chief, the cost of maintaining a golf course has increased more than seven-percent per round over the last two years.

The Golf Courses are beginning an extremely aggressive maintenance upgrade plan and one \$1million in improvements will be made over the next five years. To offset these costs, the green fees will increase for the first time since January 2004.

Even with the green fee increase, our courses will still remain the most affordable military golf course on Oahu. For example, with the new fees at Mamala Bay, a round of golf will cost between \$12 and \$32. A survey of local public courses found prices ranging from \$39 to \$145.

Youth Programs, Air Force Services' best program for 2006 and the winner of the 2006 Excellence in Youth Sports Award, is also subject to financial shortfalls. As a result of reduced funding, 15th Services Squadron must increase user fees to continue to provide world class programs.

Lifeguards will only be on duty at the beaches Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. People will swim at their own risk Monday through Friday. Additionally, Pool 2 will only be open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

These adjustments and forthcoming increases in child care fees will provide a means for the 15th Services Squadron to continue quality programs and services that customers deserve.

**Theft of government property**

A civilian employee reported their identification card was stolen from their vehicle off base.

**POV accident**

An active-duty Air Force member reported a vehicle accident on Andrews Street. One vehicle had a dent and paint transfer. The other vehicle had a broken left tail light, a dent on the bumper and paint transfer.

**Theft of personal, government property**

An active-duty Air Force member reported a personal digital assistant, cell phone, digital camera, walkman, back pack were stolen at the officers club.

**Theft of government property**

An active-duty Air Force spouse said several household items were stolen from the Airman's Attic.

**Vandalism**

An active-duty Air Force dependent notified security forces of a scratch on the front passenger side of the vehicle, one scratch on the rear passenger door and one carved out number near the top of the rear wheel well.

**Vandalism**

An active-duty Air Force spouse reported their vehicle had been vandalized. The vehicle had an indecent word written on it.

**DUI, Article 92, failure to obey a lawful order**

A security forces patrol found a person asleep in their vehicle at the parking lot of the enlisted club. They woke the member and detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage. The active-duty Air Force member failed a field sobriety and was transported to the security forces control center for processing.

Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## New 'Port Dawgs' set up for success at Charleston AFB

**CHARLESTON AFB, S.C. (AFP)** – Members of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron here have found a unique way to get their Airmen trained smarter, faster and better -- it's called the Port Dawg University currently being taught at Charleston AFB.

The Port Dawg University Program is "aerial port's way of streamlining everything to make sure Airmen have all core tasks signed off" before getting to their duty sections, said Master Sgt. Catherine Richardson, 437th APS Unit Learning Center NCO in charge.

"I would like to see all Air Force units, not just aerial ports, doing this," said Sergeant Richardson. "It's not just an APS thing. Every new person entering the service goes through the same acclimation process. If we can make that process easier, the whole Air Force will benefit with more capable Airmen." (Story by Tech. Sgt. Mary Hinso, 315th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

## Dover AFB receives new maintenance trainer

The Avionics Modernization Program, also known as AMP, is

changing the way C-5 Galaxies are flown by streamlining the aircraft to emulate civilian aircraft.

In addition to installing new communications and navigation panels, dials are being replaced with multi-function display units. These new AMP systems not only impact the pilots who fly the planes, but also the maintainers who fix them.

For that latter reason, Air Mobility Command and Air Education and Training Command officials decided to commission a simulator to be used when instructing the maintainers who will fix avionics AMP systems on C-5s. (Story by Senior Airman James Bolinger, 436th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

## Ramstein Airmen connect with Rwandan children

**KIGALI, Rwanda (AFP)** – Large smiles, chewing gum bubbles and high-fives were the scene Sept. 22 when Airmen from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, gave donated goods to orphans and school children here.

The 787th Air Expeditionary Squadron, comprised of 20 Airmen from the 86th Airlift Wing, 86th Contingency Response Group, 86th Operations Support Squadron and 700th Contracting Squadron, deployed to provide airlift to Rwandan troops serving with the African Union in the Darfur region.

The 787th AES delivered blankets, clothing and school supplies,

## Life-saving training at Osan AB



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Strohmeyer

**Maj. Paul Neidhardt, 25th Fighter Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea, takes a break after a day of combat search and rescue training Sept. 21 near Osan Air Base, South Korea. Training is conduct-**

**ed annually by survival, evasion, resistance and escape instructors to reacquaint aircrew members with combat search and rescue procedures and techniques.**

which were donated by Air Force and Army units in the Kaiserslautern Military Community to Rwandan children. (Story by Capt. Erin Dorrance, 86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

## Mirror-coating chamber in place at Starfire Optical Range

**KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFP)** – The Defense Department's largest mirror-coating chamber has been installed and tested at the Air Force Research Laboratory's Starfire Optical Range.

"This will give the laboratory a safer alternative to transporting the 3.5-meter (11.5 feet) mirror all the way to Kitt Peak Observatory in Tucson," said 1st Lt. Wellington Phillips, project offi-

cer for the coating chamber at the Optics Division of the Directed Energy Directorate.

"Since we now only have to move the mirror from the top of the mountain to the base, here, the risk of damage is far less to the \$8 million mirror, a size that isn't even made anymore," Lieutenant Phillips said. (Story by Eva D. Blaylock, Air Force Research Laboratory Public Affairs)

### Air Force Club membership campaign

"A Thousand Things to Do," the 2006 Air Force Club Membership Campaign continues through Nov. 30. Each year, Air Force clubs demonstrate their support to Air Force members and their families pursuing educational goals by providing \$25,000 in scholarships. To join, or to get more membership information, call the enlisted club at 448-2271 or the officers' club at 448-4608.

### NAF Sale continues

The non-appropriated funds property sale will continue until Oct. 19 or until further notice. The sale is held at the old enlisted club, Bldg. 422 by Pool 2 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday. For more information, call 448-4258.

### Free junior's golf clinic

The Junior's Golf Clinic is a pretty "fairway" to get some expert instruction in the game. The first 12 junior golfers to sign up will receive this free lesson taught by the staff of Mamala Bay today from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Register by calling 449-6490 and indicate a right or left-handed preference.

### Texas hold 'em tournament

Put on your best poker face tonight for the Texas Hold 'Em Tournament at the enlisted club. Check-in between 6:30 and 6:50 p.m. at the customer service center. It's free and it's first come, first served for this Members Only all ranks event. No bluffing. For more information, call 448-2271.

### Comedy night at the enlisted club

The laughs are on the house this evening during the enlisted club's comedy night. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show starts at 9.

Tickets are \$22.50 and there's a \$2.50 Members First discount. This is not a joke. For more information, call 448-2271.

### Flick-n-float movie

Pool all family and inflatable resources as the Flick-N-Float summer film festival continues at Pool 2 tonight at 8 p.m. Tonight's featured film is the original Pirates of the Caribbean. Tickets cost \$3 for pool entry. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian. The snack bar will be open. For more information, call 449-5215.

### Air Force artist craftsman and photography showcase

The Air Force Artist Craftsman and Photography Showcase is seeking entries of any category of art or darkroom or digital photography. All participants receive a certificate and photos of all entries will be forwarded to the major command level. The limit is six entries per person and tomorrow is the registration deadline. The awards presentation will be Oct. 11 at the Arts and Crafts Center. For more information, call 449-1568.

### Puka party

Don't putter around. Get into the swing of things. The next Puka Party at the 10th Puka Sports Lounge is tomorrow beginning at 8 p.m. Party with hits from the 80s and 90s, beverage specials, games and prizes. For more information, call 449-1594.

### Breakfast break

The Enlisted club's usual Sunday breakfast will not be offered Sunday or Oct. 8. For more information, call 448-2271

### Tops in Blue auditions

Become a troop in the Air Force's expeditionary entertainment troupe. Set a mis-

sion to audition. Performing is the duty for members of Tops in Blue. Try out for the 2007 Tour. Applications are available at [www.topsinblue.com](http://www.topsinblue.com) and are due Monday. The competition will be held Nov. 13 at Lackland AFB, Texas. For more information, call the Community Center at 449-3354.

### Enlisted club maintenance

The enlisted club will be closed until 3 p.m. Monday for maintenance.

### Swim lessons

Register for the next lap of swim lessons Monday between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Pool 2. Both group and private lessons at various proficiency levels are available. For schedules and more information, call 448-2223.

### Youth ocean adventure advanced sailing program

Ahoy, children ages 10 to 18 who are certified Hickam Harbor card holders. The Youth Ocean Adventure Advanced Sailing Program is the perfect opportunity to further improve sailing skills. Classes run from Monday through Friday. Choose between two sessions: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Register at Hickam Harbor. For more information, call 449-5215.

### Group surf lesson

Register by Wednesday and join other wannabe surfer dudes and dudettes for a three-hour group surf lesson on either Oct. 7 or Oct. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants must be able to swim without a life jacket and be willing to spend \$45 for board rental, transportation and the wisdom of two instructors. For more information, call 449-5215.

### Great aloha treasure race

They're off and running in the Great Aloha Treasure Race which begins Wednes-

day at 6 p.m. in the Enlisted club. Enjoy a great buffet, learn the rules of the game and get the clues that lead to the first game destination. Four-person teams will explore O'ahu while searching for treasures and bringing digital pictures of them to each Wednesday's buffet. The awards banquet is Nov. 8. For more information, call 448-2271.

### Card swap night

Pick a card or pick someone else's card - for a swap that is. The arts and crafts center holds just the right cards in order to sponsor Card Swap Night Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. Cookies and coffee will be served. For more information, call 449-1568.

### Officers' club first Friday Oktoberfest

It's time to celebrate Bavarian style, Oct. 6 at the officers' club first Friday Oktoberfest from 4:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the Koa Lounge. Toast from a selection of German beers and enjoy live entertainment from 5 to 10 p.m. For more information, call 448-4608.

### Enlisted club Oktoberfest

Oct. 6 is Oktoberfest at the

## New Fitness Center hours begin Sunday

**Monday - Friday**  
4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

**Saturday**  
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Sundays, holidays and down days**  
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

enlisted club with a German dinner plate available for purchase, German music, merriment and prizes. Purchase a mug and have it hand-signed by Don Gordon, founder of Gordon Biersch. For more information, call 448-2271.

### Tailgate sale

One man's treasure might be found in another man's tailgate. And for a bargain price, at that. The next tailgate sale is Oct. 7 from 7 to 10 a.m. in the Burger King parking lot.

For more information, call 449-2361.

### Fit Factor's first birthday

Come celebrate Fit Factor's first birthday, Oct. 7 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Kids ages 6-18 are welcome and there are so many activities

planned, it's going to be quite a challenge to "fit" them all into the community center. Everything is free and open to all, so, "Get up, get out, and get fit!" For more information, call 448-2296.

### Puka Lounge 30th anniversary bash and golf tournament

Don't miss the 10th Puka Lounge's 30th anniversary bash and golf tournament Oct. 7 at 11 a.m. A shotgun golf tournament limited to the first 60 players starts at 1 p.m. The \$30 golfer fee includes green fee, a steak dinner and a special 10th Puka anniversary shirt. There's also a \$20 non-golfer package. For more information, call 449-1594.