



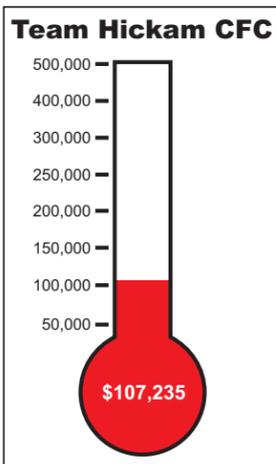
News Notes

Power outages –The Hickam base power system is in the process of being upgraded. As a result, there have been and may continue to be power outages at certain locations across the base or total power outages such as the one last week. Team Hickam appreciates base residents' patience until the rollover is complete on or around Oct. 18. Base residents can call 449-9951 to report any outages when outages occur or for any status updates.

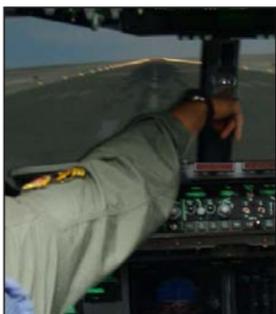
Joint spouses conference – The annual joint spouses conference is Oct. 20 and 21 at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii. On-line registration is available through today, at www.jsc-hawaii.com. People must sign up in advance as no registrations will be taken at the course. Cost is \$35 to attend both days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

BX closes early – The Hickam Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities will be undergoing register replacement Sunday through Oct. 15. As a result, the base exchange will close at 6 p.m. Sunday instead of 9 p.m. Other facilities affected by the change are the Hickam Car Care Center, Hickam Class Six, Air Mobility Terminal and Bel-lows, however, none of these facilities will require early closure.

See NOTES, A4



In this week's Kukini



Simulator offers training for pilots
B1

- Classifieds B6-10
- Crossword B2
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NSPS organizes workforce

By Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

Four hundred of Hickam's Department of Defense employees switch to the National Security Personnel System, Jan. 21.

NSPS is a new management organization that is designed with tools to simplify the process for DOD promotions, rewards and compensation to employees.

In the old system, raises and bonuses occurred because of seniority. Under the new system, promotions are based on the individual's performance.

The NSPS is intended to be a

straightforward system that permits the employee to be more mobile, utilizing four broad career groups and pay banding. Pay banding is a work level and associated pay range within a pay schedule.

"Pay banding is one of the major components they'll group together," said Mike McCrary, Hickam NSPS program manager. "Doing this will eliminate 15 different pay scales within the same job and individual salaries will no longer be public knowledge."

Pay banding allows DOD employees to move from one job to another while maintaining their current salary. "It is easier for people to move

around within the pay band without having to process a personnel action or make a promotion," said Mr. McCrary.

The NSPS will streamline personnel management, so the DOD workforce is more agile and the process is simpler.

"It is a personnel system that is being designed for all DOD employees to be able to move people around more quickly, to be hired more quickly and to get through some of the processes more quickly," said Mr. McCrary.

The next big component under the new approach after pay banding is pay for performance.

"Now, based upon your performance appraisal, you could be given an

increase in your base pay," said Mr. McCrary.

Under the old system, performance awards are limited to giving the employee a check at the end of the year. This is not the case with the ability to offer a pay raise.

"Now they can actually add that to your base pay," said Mr. McCrary. "There is an incentive to do well and the good performers should be able to get more money."

One of the original selling points of the new approach was theoretically an employee could make the top of the

See NSPS, A4

JPAC honors fallen troops



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Joint casket bearers lift a flag-draped coffin of recovered remains believed to be a missing U.S. Service member during an arrival ceremony. The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command recovered remains

from the United States, France, Germany the Solomon Islands and Croatia associated with World War I and World War II. They will be transported to JPAC where the forensic identification process will begin.

Fallout money funds Hickam runway

After Fiscal Year 2006 closed out Saturday, The 15th Airlift Wing had extra cash to spend on things like improvements to the fitness center, locks in the dormitories and equipment for the 15th Security Forces Squadron.

Pacific Air Forces also gave \$27.6 million to the wing to help alleviate the costs of mission-essential assets at Hickam. This included everything

from runway repairs to upgrades to services squadron facilities and the child development centers here.

Some contracts such as the janitorial contract were also extended into next year, according to Capt. Shay Edwards, 15th Comptroller Squadron Financial Analysis Flight commander.

To receive fallout money, she explained, units on base have to

provide the wing with a list of supplies needed and justification for these.

After the list is compiled, it is prioritized and taken to a financial management board. The money is then spread around so members of Team Hickam each get their piece of the pie and so mission readiness can be increased into Fiscal Year 2007.

(Compiled from staff reports)

Dining facility revamps hours



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nathan Kralemann, Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1, pays for breakfast at the Hale Aina Dining Facility. The dining facility cut some of the services offered in order to operate efficiently and provide quality service to service members. The dining facility will no longer offer a midnight meal and will limit carry-out service to people in uniform. The Mokulele Flight Kitchen will remain open 24 hours daily to provide meals to night shift workers.

Photo by Senior Airman Erin Smith

How to be prepared in case of disaster

By Airman 1st Class
Joey Honahan
15th Airlift Wing Safety office

Disasters and emergencies can happen anytime. Whether it's as severe as a tsunami or as simple as losing the electricity, people should be prepared for any situation that comes their way.

For most, something as minor as losing electricity leaves them vulnerable.

One way to help prepare for these situations is to make a disaster supply kit. With the supplies gathered in advance people can be ready for most situations.

These six major supplies people should have in these kits are water, food, first aid kits, clothing and bedding, tools and special items.

People should store enough bottled water so that each person has a three day supply at a minimum. As a guide, a normal active person needs to consume at least two quarts of water each day. Children, nursing mothers and people that are ill probably will need more.

Food in the kits should not require refrigeration, preparation, or cooking.

The third item in the kit should be a first aid kit. Many good first-aid kits are available for purchase at department stores.

The fourth supply needed for an emergency kit is clothing and bedding. That includes rain gear, sunglasses, hats and gloves, blankets or sleeping bags, sturdy shoes or work boots, and an emergency heat reflective blanket.

Recommended tools and emergency supplies are flashlights, utility knives, cash or travelers checks, fire extinguisher, waterproof matches, water purification tablets, tarps and strong tape.

The sixth part of kit will be special items. Family such as infants, elderly or disabled persons will need particular items like formula, diapers, bottles, powdered milk and medications. The special items should also include entertainment to help morale during emergencies and unexpected situations.

For more ideas, visit the Red Cross website at http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_500_00.html or call the 15th Airlift Wing safety office at 449-SAFE.

Attitude is everything

By Maj. Sean McElhaney
15th Mission Support Squadron commander

Today, the Air Force is seeing many deployments, many cuts in our budgets, and many more challenges we must face. Our Core Values, our intense training, and our top of the line equipment are here to help us meet these day-to-day challenges. However, what can set us apart from the next country, the next unit, or even the next person, because we have no choice but to be the best, is our attitude.

Our attitude can be the X-factor between a winning team and a team that can only just survive on a day-to-day basis.

Commanders will most likely always pick the person with a positive, can-do attitude over anyone else because they can greatly increase the unit's work productivity, improve the learning environment, and more importantly, tighten the unit's esprit de corps.

All of us have a job to do and it's hard work including things from piles of paperwork to customers who

demand our attention. Extra duties also seem to consistently get dropped on our plates. No matter how we feel about it, the mission must get done. However, you'd be amazed at how much can be accomplished if all of us put a smile on our face and told ourselves every morning, "I'm going to have an outstanding day!" Just these two small things can turn an average person into a winner.

Winners sometimes don't know how to do everything, but they truly believe they can do anything.

They create an air of confidence that becomes extremely infectious to everyone that works with a winner. This confidence then takes away the self doubt, the unsure nature of the future, and it allows us to put that step forward and get the job done.

A year ago, many people had doubts about the C-17 coming to Hickam and having active-duty members working side-by-side with the Hawaii Air National Guard.

Today, we're doing it and those planes are flying. All of us have some amount of self doubt, but a positive attitude will build our confidence and take us to the next level.

Hispanic Americans make the sacrifice

By Capt. Carlos Diaz
18th Wing Public Affairs

Many of us have made the trip from other countries where Spanish is the native language. Many of us share African, Spanish or Native American roots. All of us are committed to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

We are Hispanic Americans serving in the military.

From the Civil War to the war on terrorism, people from places like Mexico, Spain, the Caribbean and South America have fought bravely to defend our country against those who hate our way of life and the United States of America.

Many of our parents, and even some of us, have made the sacrifice of leaving the places we grew up to adopt and cherish a new culture with a new language that values the freedom of all men and women. This country

has given us the opportunity to provide better lives for our families and to share our culture and make a contribution to America's future.

Among those who have gone above and beyond in the defense of our country, are 39 Hispanic-American Medal of Honor recipients.

Names like Army Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez, who despite his severe wounds saved the lives of at least eight men while serving in Vietnam.

Marine Pfc. Fernando Luis-Garcia did not hesitate to jump on top of and cover with his body an enemy grenade to protect his fellow Marines while serving in Korea. And Army Cpl. Benito Martínez who manned his listening post despite imminent danger while serving in Satae-Ri, Korea. These servicemembers exemplify the sacrifices of Hispanic Americans fighting in the U.S. military.

Now that I think about it, I probably thought about serving

my country. I remember the stories of many veterans who would sit and chat with my grandfather about their experiences during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, while he waited for his medical appointment at a veterans hospital.

Like my story, there are another 200,000 stories of sacrifice and courage like the ones I heard at that hospital a long time ago. Those stories are being written in Spanish and English, they sound like salsa merengue and mariachis; they taste like pozole, plantains and enchiladas; they all feel and smell like freedom.

Thousands of Hispanic Americans have given their lives to defend our way of life and have paved the way for me and other Hispanic-American servicemembers and civilians who have followed their example.

To the ones who went before us and opened doors to people like me, and to the country that has accepted our cultures and given us our way of life - Gracias!

Sweat the small stuff

Attention to detail makes Airmen stand out

By Maj. Kevin Walker
736th Security Forces Squadron commander

Undoubtedly, some time in our life we have all been told, "Don't sweat the small stuff."

But instead, I would argue to say, "Sweat the small stuff." It's the small stuff that is going to set you apart. More on that in a minute.

We all rose our right hand and volunteered to become part of this great Air Force for various reasons.

No matter what our reasons, the overwhelming majority of today's Airmen care a great deal about the Air Force and are passionate about their job and career field. With that passion comes the drive to excel and the pride that is

felt from a job well done.

But for some reason, many people don't let that passion or pride drive them all the way through their objective.

Many people have their eyes set on large targets but end up missing the small ones. While large targets are important, it's the small ones that can add up.

I had a commander once tell me the difference between a good unit and a great unit is the attention to detail. He couldn't have been more right.

Think of it like this. You have moved to a new assignment. Upon your arrival, you may have had someone meet you at the airport. They may have had a vehicle waiting for you, and they may have even driven you to your hotel or on-base lodging.

“ It means you have the passion and pride to not only do what is right, but to go that extra mile and makes ure your task, unit, wing and Air Force are as squared away as they can possibly be. ”

While there is nothing wrong with that welcome, some attention to the small details would really have made an impact.

Suppose that same sponsor met you at the airport with a welcome package, knew not only your name, but the name of your family members and pets, took you to pick up your rental car, gave you a quick tour of the surrounding area, drove you to your room, and even had some kind of food and

drinks waiting for you in your room.

Those are the little details that delineate a good sponsor program with a great sponsor program. Just those little details tell a newly arrived Airman that the unit they are now assigned to is squared away and ready for them.

One more example could be your unit's physical training program.

Suppose your unit's PT program is conducted on

Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Stretching is left up to each individual, the run can be however far or fast everyone would like, and then after the run everyone gets back together for cool-down stretches.

Now consider that same program where the unit fell into formation for stretches, everyone was in the Air Force PT uniform, everyone participated in calisthenics, an organized run was conducted for a known distance or pace, everyone conducted cool-down stretches together, and then pass-ons and orders of the day were issued.

While they are both effective PT programs, those little details easily set apart the good PT program from the great PT program. As good programs turn into great programs, the stan-

dard will be set.

The next thing you know, the squadron on a whole has transformed from a good squadron to a great squadron.

To put this all in perspective, small things not only can set a good unit apart from a great unit, they can save lives.

Practicing, demanding and enforcing attention to detail does not mean you are obsessive-compulsive; it means you care about your job and your Airmen. It means you have the passion and pride not only to do what is right, but to go that extra mile and make sure your task, unit, wing and Air Force are as squared away as they can possibly be.

Sweat the small stuff, and the small stuff will set you apart.

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.

Alleged Abduction

Comment: There have been rumors floating around the installation regarding the alleged abduction of a child sometime within the last week or so. If this is true then the Hickam community needs to be made aware of this.

Response: Security forces did receive a phone call from a family member who reported that a threat of kidnapping was made to her daughter. Security forces fully investigated the claim and was

unable to substantiate the threat.

However, in response to the allegation, the squadron conducted an immediate stop and check at all base exits, though they did not identify or detain a suspect.

Be assured that I take all threats to the members of the Team Hickam community very seriously and I will exploit all of the resources at my disposal to ensure your safety on this installation. With that being said, I ask all of you to help keep our community safe by reporting any suspicious activity to the law enforcement desk at 449-2677. Thank you very much for your concern.

Hickam Diamond Tips

The cummerbund dilemma

Despite the amount of times we wear our mess dress, we always pause to remember which way the cummerbund faces. The 97th Uniform Board has made it easy and standardized cummerbund wear for both men and women. Pleats will face up. An easy way to remember...I will always have a place to carry my coin.

Questions? Contact your First Sergeant.



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 - Maj. Clare Reed Chief, Public Affairs
 - Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman NCOIC, Internal Information
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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

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Stand By Your Pan

Be mindful when cooking

By Staff Sgt. Benjamin Lomas
15th Civil Engineer Squadron

The national fire prevention association and thousands of other fire departments across America will commemorate Fire Prevention Week 2006, Oct. 8-14.

The theme for this week is "Prevent Cooking Fires – Watch What You Heat." This helps remind people that leaving cooking unattended and other unsafe kitchen practices are a recipe for disaster.

Often, when people are cooking, they are distracted by things like a ringing doorbell or a child and forget about the chicken they left sizzling on the stove - until smoke fills the house

Hickam Fire Emergency Services, Fire Chief William A. Moore Jr. often speaks to the Hickam Base populace about the ways they can stay safe in their homes. "Too often, however, we have that conversation after they've suffered a traumatic damaging fire in their home. If I could give just one single fire safety advice, I'd say, "stand by your pan."

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Studies show that one out of every three residential fires started in the kitchen and more than 100,000 fires a year were related to cooking.

There is really no safe period of time for the cook to step away from a hot stove; here are a few key fire safety points:

- People should Stay in the kitchen when

they are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food. If they must leave even for a short period of time, they should turn off the stove.

- When simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home, and use a timer as a reminder that you are cooking.

- Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles.

- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove.

- To prevent a microwave fire, turn it off immediately and keep the door closed. Never open the door until the fire is completely out. If in doubt, get out of the home and call the fire department.

- Keep an oven mitt and a lid handy. If a grease fire starts in the pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and slide the pan off the burner. Never pour water on a grease fire. If the fire does not go out, get out of the home and call the fire department.

- If an oven fire starts, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you or your clothing. If the fire does not go out, get out of the home and call the fire department.

A cooking fire can quickly turn deadly, too often homes are destroyed and people killed or injured by fires that could have been easily avoided. For more information, contact the Hickam Fire Prevention Office at 449-8118.

CFC in progress



Photo by Vanessa Perez

Col. JJ Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, signs his Combined Federal Campaign donation card as Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman, CFC key worker looks on. The campaign runs through October. The Team Hickam goal is \$500,000. Team Hickam members can contact their unit CFC representatives for information on how to make a donation.

Phishing: People should guard their personal information

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

By Senior Airman Charles Randolph and Staff Sgt. Stuart Wilson
Pacific Air Forces

Email provides a convenient and powerful communications tool that few in today's fast paced world can live without.

Unfortunately, it also provides scammers with an easy means for luring information from unsuspecting victims. This form of Internet fraud is called phishing. The term, pronounced fishing, comes from the analogy that Internet scammers are using email as bait to fish for passwords and personal data from the sea of Internet users.

Phishing emails claim to be from a business or organization with which individuals would routinely

interact such as an Internet service provider, bank, online payment service or even a government agency. These emails attempt to fool you into visiting a bogus Web site to either download malicious

software or reveal sensitive personal information. They usually contain links that redirect the target audience to bogus sites that look astonishingly like the real thing. These sites ask for information such as your account number, address, online banking user-name and password. Attackers use this information to steal your iden-

tity and raid your bank account. Phishers use a technique called spear-phishing to selectively target a single person or small group. A phony email might even look like an official email from a DoD organization but have nothing to do with the military. These types of attacks are aimed to make people think they are accessing official sites, including the MyPay website.

As scary as this may sound, there are several ways people can protect themselves and their family. The following recommendations can minimize the chances

of falling victim to an email phishing scam.

- Be suspicious of any email requesting personal information of any kind. Even email from trusted sources can have spoofed email addresses. Email spoofing is the practice of changing the name in email so that it looks like the email came from somewhere or someone else. Digital signatures should be used to provide authentication of the sender.

- Be suspicious of the links placed directly in an email. They can say one thing and lead somewhere else. People should use a search engine to find the correct URL for that company.

- People should ask themselves "Why am I getting this email?" A way to avoid being a target is to control the use of work email addresses by not posting them in newsgroups, blogs or other online forums.

• People should never give out their user identification, password or common access card personal identification number to anyone. System administrators will never ask for this information and avoid writing this information down. If people must write down their user ID or password, it must be treated at the same level as the system it protects and secured in the same manner.

If people receive a suspected phishing email, they should contact their client support administrator, information system security officer or internet service provider for assistance. If people suspect that they have fallen for a phishing scam, they should take steps to immediately protect themselves. Many sources of help are available on the Internet. <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/> or <http://www.antiphishing.org> are good places to start.



The perfect fold



Staff Sgt. Trey Goodwin, Air Force Honor Guard, watches as members of the Hickam Honor Guard practice folding the American flag. The Air Force Honor Guard visited Hickam, Sept. 28 through Wednesday and helped Hickam Airmen improve drill.

Photo by Angela Elbern

NSPS, From A1—

pay band if they are a good performer.

"However, keep in mind you are always limited to the amount of money you have in the budget," said Mr. McCrary. "There is no additional money that comes with NSPS. DOD wants it to be a pay for performance system not a seniority system."

The transition into the new system is being done in segments called spirals. Hickam's spiral begins with the new year, when 400 DOD employees will make the change into the new system.

"The first people in DOD to go into the NSPS went in April," said Mr. McCrary. "There is another group going in October."

When NSPS was first designed it was supposed to be for all DOD employees.

"Certain unions didn't want to switch to NSPS so they filed a lawsuit against it and won," said Mr. McCrary. "There will be no bargaining unit employees under NSPS which are employees that are in the union."

Hickam has 1,400 DOD employees, only 400 will move into the NSPS.

NSPS came about as a personnel system for the DOD based upon current world events like Base Realignment and Closure and Program Budget Decision 720.

"The DOD has not changed its personnel system since 1978 and there haven't been any major changes since then," said Mr. McCrary.

Billions were spent to modernize this personnel system and present a new approach for the DOD workforce.

"These new modifications make for an organization that values and rewards the performance and that is what you want," said Mr. McCrary. "You don't want people who just sit there because they've been there for 20 years."

NOTES, From A1—

Volunteers needed — Volunteers are needed to help with the opening of the Pacific Aviation Museum. The first volunteer meetings are Saturday and Oct. 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.

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.

Iolani parents car pool — Hickam-based parents of children attending Iolani school are getting connected in order to pool transportation resources. People interested in joining the carpool group should contact Doug Smith at 664-9161 or 448-3230.

Fire prevention parade — The Hickam Fire Department celebrates fire prevention week with a parade through Hickam Housing Oct. 13 from 5 to 6 p.m. A fire display will be held at the BX Oct. 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OU degree program — The University of Oklahoma offers a Master of Arts degree in Managerial Economics. For more information, call OU at 449-6364 or e-mail aphickam@ou.edu or visit the website at www.goou.ou.edu.

**Theft of government property**

A civilian employee reported \$67 missing from the copier/fax machine change fund at the base library.

An active-duty Air Force spouse reported their dependent identification card missing. It was taken from their vehicle at the Blow Hole Lookout Observation off base.

A child of an active-duty Air Force member reported their wallet

containing their dependent identification card stolen at Aliamanu Park off base.

Domestic disturbance

An active-duty Air Force spouse reported being involved in a domestic disturbance at their quarters. Investigation revealed there were mutual assaults.

Theft

An active-duty Air Force spouse reported their child's bike helmet stolen from their quarters.

Damage to personal property

A Department of Defense contractor reported damage to their vehicle. Damage consisted of a four-inch dent on the driver side rear door. An active-duty Air Force member said while opening the door to their government owned vehicle, a gust of wind blew the door into the other vehicle.

Verbal altercation

An active-duty Air Force spouse reported being involved in a strictly verbal altercation with an active-duty Air Force member at their quarters. The members' first sergeants were contacted, responded and assumed control of the scene.

Minor vehicle accident

A civilian employee and an active-duty Air Force spouse reported a minor vehicle accident. Investigations revealed the accident was caused by improper backing by both members.

Willfully disobeying an officer, assault and indecent language

An active-duty Air Force member said they had been assaulted by an unknown female. Investigation revealed the accused was an active-duty Navy member. The member was contacted and

processed.

Damage to government property, damage to personal property, driving under the influence of an intoxicating liquor

Security forces were notified of a vehicle fleeing the scene of a vehicle accident. An active-duty Air Force member reported witnessing a vehicle hit a light pole. The vehicle in question was stopped at the main gate because of the damage, and the witness identified the vehicle as the one they saw in the accident. The vehicle belonged to an active-duty Air Force member, who was emitting a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage. The member was transported to the security forces control center for processing.

Damage to government property

An active-duty Air Force member reported damage done to their dorm room.

Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to www.af.mil.

Museum commemorates 60th anniversary with art exhibit

DAYTON, Ohio (AFP) – Sixty pieces of art, one representing a significant event for each year in Air Force history, will go on display in the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force's Hall of Honor Oct. 17.

The special exhibit is part of the museum's commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force.

The exhibit entitled, "Heritage to Horizons: Commemorating 60 Years of Air and Space Power Through Artists' Eyes," displays art from the Air Force Art Program and the museum's own collection. Artists featured include Keith Ferris, Robert McCall, William S. Phillips, and Maxine McCaffrey. (Story by Sarah Parke, National Museum of the U.S. Air Force)



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

CENTAF releases airpower summary for Oct. 3

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFP) – U.S. Central Command Air Forces officials have released the airpower summary for Oct. 3.

In Afghanistan Oct. 2, Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, a B-1B Lancer and French M-2000 Mirages provided close-air support for coalition troops in contact with Taliban extremists near Gilan. The A-10s expended cannon rounds on enemy positions.

Air Force A-10s provided close-air support for coalition troops in contact with Taliban extremists near Bar Kanday.

Air Force launches Young Investigators Research Program

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFP) – Air Force Office of Scientific Research officials here announced Oct. 2 an award of approximately \$6.3 million in grants to 21 scientists and engineers who submitted winning research pro-

posals through the Air Force's new Young Investigator Research Program.

The program is open to scientists and engineers at research institutions across the United States and those selected will receive the grants over a three-year period.

Competition for YIP grants is intense. A total of 145 proposals were received in response to the AFOSR broad agency announcement solicitation in major areas of interest to the Air Force. Interest areas include aerospace and materials sciences, chemistry and life sciences, mathematics and information sciences, and physics and electronics. (Story by William J. Sharp, Air Force Office of Scientific Research Public Affairs)

AFMC seeks to streamline test, evaluation processes

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) – If changes to the test and evaluation phases of new concept cars would improve mass production

processes and reduce recalls, wouldn't it make sense for an auto manufacturer to spend \$1 now if it meant saving \$10 later?

Officials at Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command think so and are applying the concept to the command's test and evaluation mission.

The need for change is one reason Gen. Bruce Carlson, AFMC commander, chose the test and evaluation enterprise as one of his four AFMC strategic areas under Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st century. AFSO 21 serves as an overarching program guiding continuous process improvement throughout the Air Force. (Story by John Scaggs, Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs)

55th Wing fulfills mission tasks from borrowed airfield

LINCOLN AIR PARK, Neb. (AFP) – Every day nearly 450 Airmen from the 55th Wing take the bus to work -- making an hour-long ride that takes them 50 miles away from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

The wing moved airfield

operations and support agencies to the Lincoln Air Park ramp in May to continue flying missions remotely while scheduled repairs would shut down the base runway.

"It adds a couple hours to our duty day but this is indispensable," said Lt. Col. Michael Swigert, aircraft commander and instructor with the 343rd Reconnaissance Squadron. "Otherwise, we would have to be flying out of some place farther away like Eielson and we would have to move the whole operation there." (Story by Staff Sgt. Shad Eidson, Air Force Print News.)

Air Force making progress on alternative fuels

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The Air Force is embracing an energy strategy that uses alternative sources of power and conservation, Undersecretary of the Air Force Dr. Ron Sega told a group of

civilian energy engineers during a World Energy Engineers Congress luncheon Sept. 15.

"I think we're making progress, but we certainly need your help and we look forward to increasing partnerships and taking advantage of the good ideas and products you are developing," he said.

(Story by Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein, Air Force Print News)

'Old Ironsides' hosts Medal of Honor recipients

BOSTON (AFP) – More than 70 Medal of Honor recipients took part in a special Medal of Honor flag presentation during a ceremony aboard USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides," here Sept. 30.

The flag was created by an Act of Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush Oct. 23, 2002, and each service is charged with presenting the flag to its recipients in an appropriate cere-

monial manner.

New capability improves search, rescue response

MOODY AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFP) – Pararescuemen in the 347th Rescue Group here are preparing to add a new capability to their life-saving arsenal soon.

Kangaroo Duck, a process which involves strapping an inflatable rubber raft to the underbelly of an HH-60 Pave Hawk, will be used to better assist with water-rescue scenarios, like those experienced during Hurricane Katrina.

The process got its name because the attached raft appears similar to a kangaroo's pouch when the helicopter is stationary, and boats can be referred to as ducks in the rescue community. (Story by Airman 1st Class Eric Schloeffel, 347th Rescue Wing Public Affairs)

New library hours

Effective immediately, the Hickam Library's new hours of operation are: closed Sundays and Mondays; Tuesdays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 449-8299.

New fitness and sports center hours

Effective immediately, the fitness center's new hours of operation are, Monday through Friday, 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, holidays and down days. For more information, call 448-2214. Towel service is no longer offered at the fitness center.

New Pool #2 hours

Effective immediately, Pool #2 is closed Monday through Friday and open Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call 448-2223.

New Hickam Beach hours

Effectively immediately, lifeguards at Hickam Beach will be on duty Friday through Sunday and holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The beach will be open Monday through Thursday, however, swimmers can use the beach at their own risk. For more information, call 449-5215.

New recreation equipment issue hours

Effective immediately, Recreation Equipment

Issue's new hours of operation are: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. They are closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays. For more information, call 449-6870.

NAF sale continues

Back by popular demand, the non-appropriated funds property sale will continue until further notice. The sale is held at the old enlisted club, Bldg. 422 by Pool #2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 448-4258.

Officers' Club First Friday Oktoberfest

It's time to celebrate Bavarian style today 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 DJ entertainment from 5 to 10 p.m. For more information, call 448-4608.

Beer tasting

Ale, lager, draft and stout, come taste the finer differences of hops and barley at the Officers' Club Beer Tasting tonight from 5:30 to 6 p.m. in the Koa Lounge. Food will be provided. This is a Members Only event and membership cards are required. For more information, call 448-4608, ext. 11.

Enlisted Club Oktoberfest

Today is Oktoberfest at the Enlisted Club from 4 to 6 p.m. Buy a German din-

ner, listen to German music and enjoy merriment and prizes. Purchase a mug and have it hand-signed by Don Gordon, founder of Gordon Biersch. For more information, call 448-2271.

Breakfast break

The Enlisted Club's usual Sunday breakfast will not be offered this Sunday. 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 Sunday from 7 to 10 a.m. in the Burger King parking lot. For more information, call 449-2361.

FitFactor first birthday

Come celebrate FitFactor's first birthday Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Children, ages 6 to 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.

10th Puka Lounge 30th anniversary bash and golf tournament

Don't miss the 10th Puka Lounge's 30th Anniversary Bash and Golf Tournament Sunday beginning at 11 a.m. A shotgun golf tournament limited to the first 60 players starts at 1 p.m. The \$30 golfer fee includes a green fee, a steak dinner and a

special 10th Puka Anniversary shirt. A Puka coin earns a \$5 discount. There's also a \$20 non-golfer package. For more information, call 449-1594.

Pre-holiday celebration

Because it's never too early to start celebrating, the Enlisted Club has its next pre-holiday celebration Sunday from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Party with two rooms of entertainment. Admission is \$5 and members are free. For more information, call 448-2271.

Breast cancer awareness scrapbook crop day

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the Arts and Crafts Center is holding a special scrapbook crop day Oct. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 449-1568.

Columbus Day closures

The Enlisted Club, The Officers' Club and Wright Bros. Café and Grille will be closed Monday in observance of Columbus Day. For more information, call 448-2271 or 448-4608.

Great Aloha Treasure Race

They're off and running in the Great Aloha Treasure Race every Tuesday starting at 6 p.m. at the Enlisted Club.

Enjoy a buffet and receive clues that lead to each week's destination. Four-person teams then explore O'ahu, search for treasures and bring digital photos of them to the next week's buf-

fet. Clues get progressively harder. There are weekly prizes, a final grand prize and an awards banquet Nov. 14. For more information, call 448-2271.

Hike Wahiawa Hills

Register by Wednesday to venture on this lengthy family hike along one of O'ahu's most lightly visited trails through Wahiawa Hills. The Oct. 14 hike leaves at 9 a.m. and returns at 3 p.m. after crossing several streams and ridges and a dip in a delightful stream pool. The cost is \$35 per person. Bring a swimsuit, towel, shoes, water, lunch and sunscreen. For more information, call 449-5215.

Bottom fishing within Hickam Harbor

Learn the lure of bottom fishing Oct. 15 and hook a great catch if you register by Wednesday. The \$45 fee for this excursion includes two guides, boat transportation, fishing poles and bait. For more information, call 449-5215.

Mongolian Barbeque move

Due to a special function, the next Officers' Club Thursday Mongolian Barbeque will be moved to the prior Tuesday. For more information, call 448-4608.

Enlisted Club membership Night

Oktoberfest celebrations continue at the Enlisted Club's membership night Oct. 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. There's a German buffet,

German music and special Oktoberfest beer. Members are free and may bring their spouse or one guest for \$5. Limited tickets are available and must be purchased by Thursday at noon. For more information, call 448-2271.

Pre-teen Halloween costume party

It's a slightly pre-Halloween costume party for pre-teens.

Join other zombies, skeletons and Sponge Bob Squarepants at this Youth Programs party Oct. 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. Enter the costume or dance contest, scream at monster movies and devour hotdogs and drinks. People can get in the door for \$3 and buy glow sticks and snacks for just a little more. For more information, call 448-2296.

Coloring contest

Choose one of the Arts and Crafts Center's pictures and give it some true colors, then enter it in the coloring contest which ends Oct. 31. There are three age divisions: 5 and under; 6-10; and 10 to high school senior. For more information, call 449-1568.

One-day tour to Moloka'i

Prepare for departure Oct. 21 on a one-day island-hop tour of Moloka'i.

Fly in a luxury charter and experience a fully narrated tour of the historical Kalaupapa settlement.

The cost is \$315 per person. For more information, call Information, Tickets and Travel at 448-2295.