



THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, February 18, 2026



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Upcoming Events

- **Extended Drinking Water Monitoring Booth:** Feb. 25 at Kapilina Beach Homes Night Market, 5440 Edgewater Drive from 4-8 p.m.



Board Recognizes JBPHH Commander for Service, Community Support

The Āliamanu-Salt Lake-Foster Village-Airport Neighborhood Board last week honored Capt. Samuel White, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander, for his 30+ years of military service and for supporting the community. "In my 22 years with this neighborhood board, he stands out as one, if the best, Navy commanders we have had," said Chair David Yomes, who described White as a community builder and champion.



Pacific Fleet Commander Shares Perspectives with Fellows

Adm. Steve Koehler, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, spoke last month with Fellows attending Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies' Indo-Pacific Orientation Course. The course fosters greater understanding of the Indo-Pacific region, the importance of allies and partners and critical domains. Koehler provided an overview of the Pacific Fleet, which plays a central role in maintaining maritime security, deterrence, and freedom of navigation across the world's most consequential region.



NCTF-RH Hosts Site Visit for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry Agency

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) hosted a site visit to the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF) in late January for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, a federal, non-regulatory, environmental public health agency overseen by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NCTF-RH, established by the Department of the Navy as a commitment to the community and the environment, is charged with the safe and deliberate decommissioning of the RHBFSF.



CNRH Spiritual Readiness Program Supports Mission Readiness

The Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation (CREDO) program at Navy Region Hawaii helps Sailors and their families build healthy relationships, spiritual expression, and positive moral thinking. Sponsored by the Navy Chief of Chaplains, CREDO offers marriage enrichment, personal resiliency and family enrichment retreats, workshops and seminars. "The CREDO program focuses on both the human element and professional element," explained Cmdr. John Sears, Navy Region Hawaii CREDO director.



Medal of Honor Recipient Remembers Fallen USS Utah Sailors

Former Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Donald "Doc" Ballard, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for saving the lives of five Marines during the Vietnam War, paid tribute to Sailors entombed in the USS Utah (BB 31) during a recent visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Among the Utah casualties was another Medal of Honor recipient: Chief Wartender Peter Tomich, who was awarded the medal posthumously for his extraordinary courage during the Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor attack.



This Week in History February 18, 1942

On Feb. 18, 1942, USS Nevada (BB 36) entered drydock 2 after salvage crews refloated her hull following the attack on Pearl Harbor. As a result of the herculean efforts of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, the Nevada departed drydock in less than a month and shortly thereafter steamed out of Pearl Harbor enroute for the Puget Sound to undergo further repairs and modernization. The USS Nevada and her crew served throughout the remainder of World War II.



Laulima Navy underscores our responsibility to the community and the ways we work alongside partners to help and support our neighbors. Service to others and a commitment to the greater good are values we hold in high regard. It is a privilege for all of us to call Hawaii home and we seek every opportunity we can to show how much we treasure this place. Scan the QR code to learn more about Laulima Navy.



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