

THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, March 25, 2026



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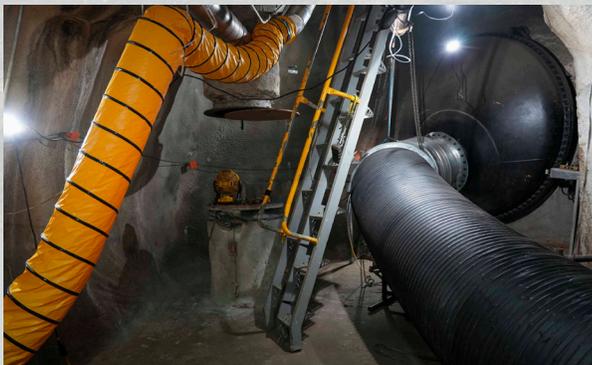
Upcoming Events

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



Navy Aircrew Rescues Residents Impacted by Flooding

A U.S. Navy MH-60R Seahawk helicopter crew from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 37 (HMS-37) rescued five people and a dog stranded on a rooftop near Waialua on Oahu's North Shore during flash flooding on Friday. The rooftop rescue, coordinated by Coast Guard Sector Honolulu, was part of a larger multi-agency response to the devastating floods. The Hawaii National Guard played a significant role in the overall response. HMS-37 is the largest expeditionary squadron in the Navy.



NCTF-RH Begins Degassing 10th Fuel Tank

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) began degassing tank 12 at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility last week, marking another significant milestone in the facility's decommissioning process. Tank decommissioning is a multi-stage process involving defueling, venting, cleaning, and ultimately, the permanent closure of each tank. With approval from the Hawaii Department of Health, NCTF-RH began safely venting (degassing) tank 12, the 10th of 14 tanks to undergo this critical initial step.



Adm. Steve Koehler Tours Ecuadorian Navy Offshore Patrol Vessel

Adm. Steve Koehler, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, toured the Ecuadorian Navy offshore patrol vessel BAE Jambelí (MP 56) last week during a scheduled port visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Koehler met with Ecuadorian naval leadership to discuss maritime security cooperation and the importance of enduring partnerships in maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific. BAE Jambelí originally belonged to the South Korean Coast Guard. It was transferred to Ecuador in 2024.



Hawaii Leaders Meet with Future of the U.S. Navy Commission

Rear Adm. Brad Collins, Navy Region Hawaii commander, and Capt. Samuel White, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander, met last week with members of the National Commission on the Future of the U.S. Navy, an independent legislative commission tasked with conducting a comprehensive study on the structure of the Navy. The delegation also met with leaders from U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, U.S. Pacific Fleet and U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific to understand current challenges and opportunities.



CNRH FSLO Helps Strengthen International Ties in the Pacific

As Navy Region Hawaii's Foreign Ship Liaison Officer (FSLO), Lt. Cmdr. Lauren Chester, is one of the first points of contact for foreign vessels visiting Pearl Harbor. It's a vital role given Hawaii's strategic location in the Pacific – and a busy one. About two foreign ships visit Pearl Harbor each month. "My main goal is to make sure all of our visitors have a positive visit and leave with a positive impression of Pearl Harbor," says Chester.



This Week in History March 25, 1961

In late 1960s, the editor of The Honolulu Advertiser contacted newspaper editors around the country to enlist help in raising funds to complete the construction of the USS Arizona Memorial. When Elvis Presley's manager, "Colonel" Tom Parker, read an editorial about the fundraising effort in the Los Angeles Examiner, he arranged for Elvis to hold a benefit concert on March 25, 1961, at Pearl Harbor's Bloch Arena. Many public and private donations followed the show, and the USS Arizona Memorial was dedicated in 1962.



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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