



THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, March 26, 2025



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Upcoming Events

- **Extended Drinking Water Monitoring Booths:** Mar. 26 at Kapilina Beach Homes Night Market, Pilikai Beach Park, 5440 Edgewater Drive, Ewa Beach, 4 - 8 p.m.; Mar. 27 at Halsey Terrace Mini Mart, 6890 Nimitz Road, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Apr. 2 at Kapilina Beach Homes Night Market, Pilikai Beach Park, 5440 Edgewater Drive, Ewa Beach, 4 - 8 p.m.



Secretary of Defense Arrives in Hawaii for Meetings with Military Leaders

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth arrived in Hawaii on Monday for meetings with top U.S. military leaders. During his first official visit to the region, Hegseth met with Adm. Samuel Paparo, commander of USINDOPACOM, at Camp H.M. Smith and later paid tribute to fallen Sailors at the USS Arizona Memorial. Hegseth's visit includes stops in Guam, the Philippines and Japan, where he will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima.



USS Vermont Returns Home from First Western Pacific Deployment

The Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Vermont (SSN 792) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 16 following a seven-month deployment to the Western Pacific, where the crew conducted port visits to Busan, South Korea; Yokosuka, Japan; and Apra Harbor, Guam. The submarine departed from Pearl Harbor in August 2024. Vermont is the third U.S. Navy ship named after the Green Mountain State. Vermont was administratively commissioned in April 2020 and is the first Block IV Virginia-class fast-attack submarine.



NCTF-RH Hosts Site Visit for EPA Administrator

Navy Closure Task Force - Red Hill hosted a site visit to the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF) on Saturday for Lee Zeldin, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, NCTF-RH commander, shared decommissioning updates with Zeldin during the visit. NCTF-RH was established by the Department of the Navy as a commitment to the community and the environment, and continues to engage with stakeholders as it safely and deliberately decommissions the RHBFSF.



Shipyard Conducts Coordinated Transportation Accident Exercise

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility and partners from the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii tested their ability to respond to, and recover from, a simulated transportation accident involving a shipment of hazardous material. The Shipyard's Emergency Response Organization maintains a robust training program to regularly practice its emergency response capabilities. Working with local first responders and environmental specialists ensures the entire team is prepared to respond together.



Remembering a Fallen Marine

Marines with the Joint Intelligence Operational Center, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, held a remembrance ceremony in front of Borchers Gate on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to honor the life and sacrifice of U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Borchers, who was killed on March 12, 1990, while on sentry duty at the Makalapa compound gate. Marines presented three lei symbolizing the Marine Corps' core values of honor, courage, and commitment. Borchers enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on April 18, 1988.



This Week in History: April 1, 1981

On April 1, 1981, the USS Bowfin (SS-287) opened for public tours along the shore of Pearl Harbor. The storied submarine and her crew served in the Pacific Theater from December 7, 1942 until the end of World War II, conducting nine war patrols. Following the war, she remained in service as a training vessel until being decommissioned in 1971. Today, the Bowfin serves as a centerpiece of the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum.



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. In this edition, we share a few ways we help to care for the community. Scan the QR code to learn more about Laulima Navy.



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