



THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, June 11, 2025



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Upcoming Events

- **Extended Drinking Water Monitoring Booths:** June 12, Navy Exchange Mall, 4725 Bougainville Drive, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; June 25, Kapilina Night Market, 5440 Edgewater Drive, from 4-8 p.m.; June 26, Pearl City Mini Mart, 794 Lehua Ave, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Capt. Robert Prince Installed as New PMRF Commanding Officer

Capt. Robert Prince relieved Capt. Brett Stevenson as Commanding Officer of Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Barking Sands on Kauai during a change of command ceremony last week. Adm. Stephen Barnett, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, recognized Stevenson's distinguished service as Commanding Officer, citing his exceptional leadership and dedication to the command, its people and the community. Prince is reporting from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, where he served as the Chief of Staff for the installation.



Wreath Ceremony Held to Commemorate Battle of Midway 83rd Anniversary

A wreath-laying ceremony was held Friday at the USS Arizona Memorial to commemorate the 83rd anniversary of the Battle of Midway, which took place June 4-7, 1942. After four intense days of fighting, the resulting outcome saw the U.S. Navy heavily cripple the Japanese Navy fighting force. Many historians consider the battle as the decisive turning point in the Pacific war, which ended Japan's naval superiority and bolstered momentum to the U.S. military's war effort.



NCTF-RH Drone Mapping Supports Safe Red Hill Decommissioning

The use of a drone outfitted with a light detection and ranging (LiDAR) laser sensor is part of an ongoing joint effort between Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH), the Expeditionary Warfare Center, and Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic to create a 3D map of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSS). Charged with the safe decommissioning of the facility, NCTF-RH was established by the Department of the Navy as a commitment to the community and the environment.



NCTF-RH Attends Gov. Green's Water Committee Meeting

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) provided a semi-annual update to Gov. Josh Green's Water Committee during a virtual meeting last week. The NCTF-RH team briefed the governor and committee members on the return of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam drinking water distribution system to regular compliance monitoring, and the reactivation of the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft. NCTF-RH regularly engages with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders as it safely decommissions the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.



USS Columbia Returns to Pearl Harbor from 7-Month Deployment

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Columbia (SSN 771) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on June 1 following a seven-month deployment to the Indo-Pacific, where the submarine and its crew performed a full spectrum of operations. Columbia was commissioned Sept. 24, 1994, and is the 60th Los Angeles-class submarine. At 360 feet long, Columbia is capable of supporting various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.



PMRF Joins World Oceans Day Celebration

Pacific Missile Range Facility's (PMRF) Natural Resources team joined NOAA's World Oceans Day Celebration at Kukui Grove Center on Saturday. The PMRF team created an exhibit featuring information about the installation's marine wildlife protection programs and the native plants being grown at PMRF. PMRF started a nursery in early 2023 and has grown more than 2,000 potted plants from 23 native species. The native plants restore the natural landscape while helping to prevent coastline erosion.



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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