

WITHIN

RANGE

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PAGE 3 KAUAI REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

Sailors participate in the Kauai Regional Science fair by being judges. Capt. Tim Young also presents two students with the Office of Naval Research Award.



PAGE 5 ALWAYS IN CONTROL

We take a brief look into the life of Senior Chief Air Traffic Controller Ahamed Sheriff and what it took for him to reach success in his 20-year naval career.



PAGE 7 SENIOR VALENTINE'S DANCE

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

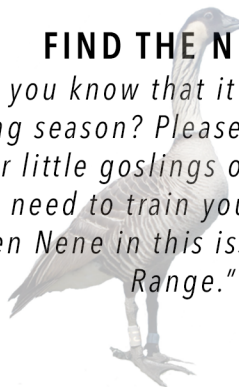
PAGE 3 SPOTLIGHTS

PAGE 8 PHOTOS FROM PMRF

PAGE 9 OPSEC

FIND THE NENE!

Did you know that it is still Nene nesting season? Please keep your eye out for little goslings on the road and if you need to train your eye, find the hidden Nene in this issue of "Within Range."



PMRF TRIAD



Capt. Tim Young
Commanding Officer



Cmdr. Rich Schmaeling
Executive Officer



ACCS Ahamed Sheriff
Senior Enlisted Leader

Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (PMRF) is the world's largest instrumented multi-environment range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations simultaneously. There are more than 1,100 square miles of instrumented underwater range, 42,000 square miles of controlled airspace and 21 million square miles of extended range when needed.

PMRF Public Affairs: Tom Clements, MC1 Erickson Magno, MC2 Sara Trujillo



Q: What you do?

A: I improve the overall safety culture in the organization and also am an ambassador of positivity and aloha.

Q: How long have you been in the Navy?

A: I have been in the Navy for 8 years.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I enjoy surfing, hiking, exploring food, wine and culture.

Q: Where is your favorite place to go on the island?

A: My favorite places to go on the island are probably Kalalau beach and Honopu beach.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is pizza.

Q: In honor of Valentine's Day, if you could give anyone in the world a Valentine, who would it be?

A: My wife. She is hands-down the best thing in my life.



Lt. Joash Gonsalves
Pilot/Aviation Safety Officer

PMRF SPOTLIGHT



Margaret Nunes
Office Automation Assistant

Q: What you do?

A: I process ID cards and Common Access Cards for military personnel and their dependents, retirees, government personnel, and contractors as well. I also take care of incoming and outgoing mail, occasionally helping with travel support administration.

Q: How long have you been at PMRF?

A: I have worked at PMRF for 21 years.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I spend most of my spare time being my son's cheerleader because he's involved with a lot of sports. When I'm not doing that, I like to go shoreline fishing and I enjoy photography.

Q: Where is your favorite place to go on the island?

A: My favorite place to go is probably Kokee. There's a lot of places and things to take photos of.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is Hawaiian Jerk Ribs from Kiawe Roots. I do also love a good steak.

Q: In honor of Valentine's Day, if you could give anyone in the world a Valentine, who would it be?

A: My Valentine would have to be my son. He's the sweetest kid.

Always in Control

The Ahamed Sheriff Story

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC1 ERICKSON MAGNO

I wouldn't say that I didn't have a good childhood. I've been in many situations that most people haven't been in, and I'm proud of what those experiences have made me become as a person."

Senior Chief Air Traffic Controller Ahamed Sheriff, senior enlisted leader of PMRF, has devoted his time caring for Sailors since he enlisted in 1998, but his younger years proved challenging.

"Honestly, I had what I think is unfortunately a typically traumatic start to life," said Sheriff. "I was born and raised in Los Angeles, back and forth between South Central and Mid-Town. Both neighborhoods were highly volatile and heavily influenced by drugs and gangs throughout my childhood. I have four sisters and was primarily raised by a single-mother. My mother divorced my abusive father when I was around six years old."

Childhood hardened Sheriff and impacted him as a brother and son. Soon enough, it would contribute to him as a Sailor.

"After high school, I attended Alabama State University in hopes of being a basketball star," said Sheriff. "When that didn't work out, I found myself back in Los Angeles at a community college. I just felt like I was at a crossroads in life and I didn't want to become a statistic. So, I joined the Navy on September 27, 1998."

Just two years into the Navy, he was faced with adversity during an unimaginable situation.

"On May 4, 2001, one of my best friends killed another one of my best friends after a verbal and physical dispute over money while I was stationed at Pearl Harbor," said Sheriff. "It was a tragic loss of two lives in one night, one dead and the other sentenced to a life in prison. It destroyed me emotionally."

His second challenge came a decade later.

"In 2010 I deployed to Iraq for 10 months," said Sheriff. "It was hard leaving my wife and kids, knowing it was a possibility I wouldn't be coming back."

Although loss of life, threats of death, and adversity surrounded Sheriff throughout his life, these experiences helped him become better prepared to face the future.

"I really believe that seeing and going through some of the things I went through growing up in Los Angeles, prepared me for these challenging times in a twisted way," said Sheriff.





"I'm almost ashamed to say it, but it's true. Experiencing death wasn't something foreign to me. It was a harsh reality of life that I learned at a very early age. These circumstances didn't break me because I really try to find learning and growing opportunities in every experience, no matter how devastating it is. I think having a strong mindset is one thing that we truly have control over in life."

This attitude and mindset eventually led to success. He said one of his proudest accomplishment in the Navy was when his mother saw him graduate with a Master's degree, a tremendous accomplishment as the first in his family to graduate from college.

Another proud accomplishment was being pinned to the rank of chief petty officer in 2013.

"Making Chief for me was the culmination of all the blood, sweat and tears that my family and I put into the Navy," said Sheriff. "I wear the anchors proudly because it symbolizes all the support that I was given during the long tough days away from family and friends, all the mentoring that people took the time to provide for me, all the knowledge and experiences that I poured into Sailors, and a visual reminder for me of how proud my mother was of me even though she never had the opportunity to see me in my khakis because she unexpectedly died a month before the results came out."

Sheriff's mother was an important role model for him, and had a large impact on the man he is today.

"I know it sounds cliché, but my mother was truly the most influential person in my life," said Sheriff. "She showed me how to love, to be proud of who and what I am. She taught me how to persevere in even the most dire situations and most

of all she showed me what legacy meant. My mother would always show me that your legacy doesn't mean anything if it doesn't positively affect others."

During a PMRF diversity committee event to honor Black History Month, Sheriff, a guest speaker, told the audience that during his mother's funeral service, he learned the true meaning of legacy. Sheriff and his siblings arrived at the service expecting only family to attend but were amazed by the amount of people from the community who showed up. It was at this event where they realized the impact of their mother's legacy. Marjorie Sheriff worked for the school district and often was the first friendly face people would see every day.

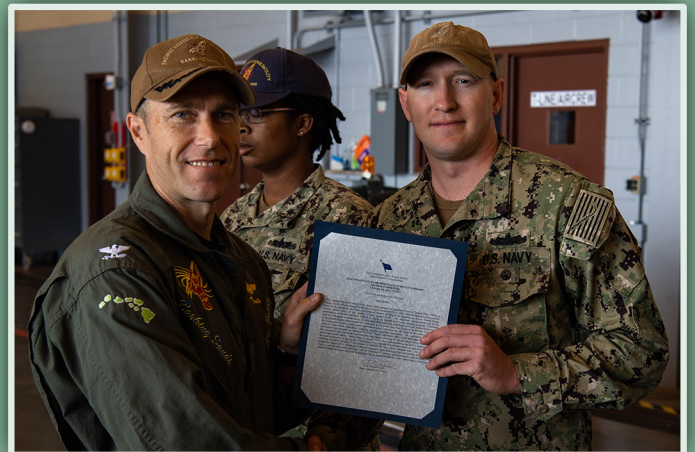
"That is when I learned that legacy isn't your family name," said Sheriff. "Your legacy is when you affect your community and the people around you with positivity."

Sheriff continues his mother's impact by mentoring Sailors, striving to be a leader and role model for others in the African-American community so diversity can keep moving forward.

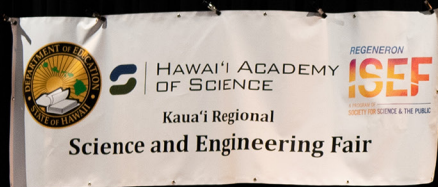
"To me, honoring the past, securing the future means that we can't afford to go backwards," said Sheriff. "We have to build on the things that our brave men and women fought and died for. We have to vote! We have to continue to fight for racial equality. We must continue to knock down walls and press forward. I apply this to both the way that I lead and how I live my own life. I try to be the example that I talk about. Be the one out there trying to make a difference for our future. Whether it's through volunteering, financially supporting different businesses or just doing more than just simply talking."

PMRF in February

This page is dedicated to all our hard-working staff both Sailors and civilians here on the range.







PMRF PARTICIPATES AS JUDGES IN THE KAUAI REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

PHOTOS AND STORY BY MC1 ERICKSON MAGNO

LIHUE, Hawaii — PMRF Sailors and Civilians judged the Kauai Regional Science Fair and Capt. Tim Young, commanding officer of PMRF, presented two students with Office of Naval Research Awards February 8, at the Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall.

The PMRF volunteer judges include personnel from departments such as seaborne power targets, air operations, public works and engineering.

“I cannot express how grateful I am for the partnership that PMRF has with our fair,” said Mariann Tabuchi, a coordinator for Kauai Regional Science Fair. “The bulk of our judges are from the base, not only independent contractors but military personnel as well.”

Students created demonstrations and exhibits on different topics in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Each of the judges were grouped up and assigned to one of the several topics.

“We have so many amazing professions represented here and for a judge to be able to have that positive impact on a kid is amazing,” said Tabuchi. “That can be the spark to a lifetime of STEM passion.”

Office of Naval Research Awards were awarded to a student from the junior and senior divisions.

“It’s awesome that these kids have the ability



to provide their knowledge and research that they’re doing here [at school] to one day apply it to Navy practices,” said Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Joseph Lugo. “They are able to go into fields, such as engineering, to provide their expertise, and possibly better humanity, at the end of the day.”

The top students from the Kauai Regional Science Fair will get a chance to compete at the State Science Fair.

The Kauai Regional Science Fair is in its 31st iteration.



Senior Valentine's Day Dance 2020



Friend Request +

**LINDA**

Confirm

No Way

We served together in Iraq. I saw you on SocialSite and thought we could be friends?

**NICOLE**

Confirm

No Way

I'm new to Social cite and I'm looking for friends. I live in Russia and would like to get to know you!

**HASHIM**

Confirm

No Way

I am a prince of an arab country and I am looking for my friend I grew up with. Are you that person?

**ROBERT**

Confirm

No Way

We met at the gym during our command's last PT session and during weightlifting. We could workout together.

#OPSEC

WHAT RISKS ARE YOU WILLING TO TAKE?