THE WEEKLY MO‘OLELO

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

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Upcoming Events

Fuel Tank Advisory Committee Meeting: Oct. 22 from 1-5 p.m. at Hawaii Dept. of Health Environmental Health Administration, Uluakupu Red Conference Room, 2827 Waimano Home Road, Pearl City. Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill will present updates on ongoing activities at Red Hill.



Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility Reaches Major Regulatory Milestone

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has inspected and formally approved the reclassification of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF). This decision officially lifts the facility’s previous classification of posing a “Significant and Substantial Harm” to the environment and surrounding community, recognizing that those high-risk conditions no longer exist. This milestone follows the successful gravity-based defueling of the RHBFSF in 2024, and ongoing decommissioning work led by Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH).



28 Firefighter Recruits Join Federal Fire Department Ranks

Twenty-eight firefighter recruits joined the ranks of Commander, Navy Region Hawaii’s (CNRH) Federal Fire Department (FFD) after completing a 26-week training program at the Hickam Fire Training Facility. The recruits were recognized during a graduation ceremony Friday at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. FFD operates 13 fire stations on military installations on Oahu. Nearly 300 civilian firefighters and personnel provide fire protection and emergency services, while also supporting local government agencies and first responders with mutual aid response.



Unmanned Surface Vessel Makes Stop at JBPHH

The Sea Hunter-class unmanned surface vessel (USV) Seahawk arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) last week for a port visit. Seahawk is a fully unmanned and autonomous vessel operated by Unmanned Surface Vessel Squadron 1 and Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific. Seahawk represents continued progress in the U.S. Navy’s efforts to integrate unmanned systems into Fleet operations. Seahawk is currently underway in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations.



Shipyard Welders Support Submarine Construction Program in Connecticut

To support fleet readiness in the Pacific, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY & IMF) sent a team of welders to General Dynamics Electric Boat, a hub for U.S. Navy nuclear submarine construction in Groton, Conn. The welders were part of a “shared-skills” pilot program at the facility, a lead design yard and builder of the Virginia and Columbia-class programs, to help keep these vital undersea assets on schedule amid critical industry workforce demands.



DPAA Identifies Remains of 250 Service Members in FY 2026

In Fiscal Year 2026, the Department of War identified the remains of 250 Service members who had been unaccounted for from past conflicts, exceeding the previous record of 231 that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) made in FY 2025. The 250th to be identified is U.S. Army Capt. Albert P. Wilcox, who was a prisoner of war in the Philippines during World War II. His remains were recovered after the war but were unidentifiable.



This Week in History: October 21, 1936

On Oct. 21, 1936, Pan American Airways began regular passenger service between San Francisco and Manila via Honolulu, carrying the first paying airline passengers to cross the Pacific. The clipper was under the command of Edwin Musick, with future Pan Am chairman Harold Gray serving as first officer. The Hawaiian Clipper docked at Pearl City Peninsula on Oct. 22. Airfare between the West Coast and Manila was $950. Photo: The Hawaiian Clipper moored at Pearl City Peninsula.

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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