



New exhibit unveiled at USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 6  
**See page A-3**



JBPHH dedicates tower to Dec. 7 attacks veteran Lt. Gen. Gordon A. Blake  
**See page A-10**



Basketball Invitational honors Pearl Harbor veterans  
**See page B-3**



Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights to be on display Dec. 8-25  
**See page B-7**

# “Navigator” HO'OKELE

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

December 9, 2016

www.cnmc.navy.mil/hawaii www.hookelenews.com

Volume 7 Issue 48

## Pearl Harbor Day remembered

**Petty Officer 1st Class  
Rebecca Wolfbrandt**

*Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element  
Detachment Hawaii*

Thousands gathered at the 75th Anniversary National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Commemoration at Kilo Pier, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 7.

The ceremony set to honor those who lost their lives during the attacks on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, included a moment of silence, a pass-in-review of the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97), a “Missing Man” flyover formation, and wreath presentations for each branch of the armed forces.

After the presentation of colors and national anthem, by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, speakers Kahu Kamaki Kanahele and Kahu Herbert Hew Len performed a Hawaiian blessing. This was followed by a prayer for peace given by Rev. Tsunekiyo Tanaka, a member of the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation.

Rear Adm. John V. Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, spoke



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Laurie Dexter

Pearl Harbor survivors greet a child during the 75th Commemoration Event of the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu.

directly to the World War II veterans, thanking them for the sacrifices they made in the past, which helped create a strong partnership with Japan.

“Those of you that served in World War II, ushered in a great era of peace and prosperity that we’ve en-

joyed for decades. You did that with your blood, your sweat, and your tears,” Fuller said. “You earned our commitment to always remember Pearl Harbor. Your life changed the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, and after that day you changed the world forever.”

Keynote speaker Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command, emphasized the dedication and courage our WW II veterans showed.

“For those who gave their last full measure of devotion for their nation that day we feel a deep sense of

sorrow,” Harris said. “Yet we are also inspired by their great gift to the world, the gift of freedom itself.”

The ceremony ended with a rifle salute performed by a U.S. Marine Corps rifle detail, the playing of echo taps by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, and a

vintage 1940s Globe Swift plane fly-by.

As the Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans left the ceremony, dozens of present-day service members lined the exit to create a “Walk of Honor,” issuing a hand salute as the walked through.



Survivors from the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Hickam Field revisit the flag that flew that day during a tour of Hickam at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 6.

## Survivors, friends, families remember Hickam Field attacks

**Story and photo by  
1st Lt. Kaitlin Daddona**

*15th Wing Public Affairs*

On the morning of Dec. 7, service members, their friends and families gathered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to remember the fatal attacks on Hickam Field in 1941.

The ceremony, which honored the 492 men and women killed and wounded on Hickam Field, came 75 years after the two waves of attacks launched by the Imperial Japanese Navy on Dec. 7, 1941.

“The attack on Oahu changed the course of history for our nation and the entire world, but it is merely the first chapter in a much longer book,” Col. Kevin Gordon, 15th Wing commander said.

“This is a story of service, sacrifice, perseverance, unity and triumph.”

Of the 3,000 people in attendance, 10 of them were

survivors from the attack.

Among those survivors was Armando “Chick” Galella, a former Army command sergeant major, whose presence at the ceremony was to honor those who died during the attack.

“I am not a hero,” he said. “I’m a survivor of war. We’re here to honor these boys who lost their lives.”

During the ceremony, Gordon shared the stories of the men who came to revisit the place they called home 75 years ago.

“Our citizens stepped up and fought back in defense of our nation, and their stories need to be told,” he said.

Former Tech. Sgt. Durward Swanson, a survivor who has attended the Hickam Field ceremony for the past five years, retired the flag that flew during the attacks.

“Around 9 p.m., Swanson looked up and saw Old Glory still flying right here at this very flag

pole,” Gordon said.

“He grabbed a buddy and they lowered the proudest symbol of our country. On a day when so much had fallen, Old Glory survived.”

The men and women who were here during the attacks were honored by performances by the Pacific Air Forces Band, wreath presentations, and an F-22 flyover.

“I wanted to thank everybody here from the bottom of my heart,” Galella said. “The ceremony was beautiful.”

Following the formal ceremony, attendees posed for photos with the survivors and asked for their autographs.

Gordon reminded the men, women and children in the audience the importance of preserving the Hickam Field heritage and keeping the stories of the fateful day alive.

“Because of you, the events of December 7, 1941 will not be forgotten.”

## Sunset memorial pays tribute to USS Utah Sailors

**Petty Officer 1st Class  
Nardel Gervacio**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment Hawaii*

As the sun slowly set on the horizon, forming a golden hue in the clouds, Pearl Harbor survivors, World War II veterans and guests gathered at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, for a sunset tribute, Dec. 6.

The hour-long ceremony is held at sunset each year to commemorate the anniversary of those who bravely served on the Florida-class battleship, and to honor the 54 crewmembers still entombed aboard the sunken vessel.

“I think it’s important to have a remembrance because we can always learn from those that came before you,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Rios, of Brooklyn, New York, assigned to Naval Health Clinic Hawaii.

“By having an event [like this], you learn from mistakes, learn from traditions and recognize

those that went beyond the call of duty, and hopefully twenty years from now, they’ll look back at my generation of Sailors, and see that we had the same core values of those that came before us.”

On Sept. 14, 1941, USS Utah sailed to Pearl Harbor, where she provided anti-aircraft and target duties. USS Utah was moored on “battle-ship row” when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

“I think it’s incredible to be standing here, where it took place 75 years ago. It’s unreal knowing that you’re standing where the events took place such a long time ago,” Rios said.

Before his opening remarks, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison Master Chief Jim Taylor was overwhelmed by the turnout and thanked everyone for showing up. Taylor then went on to speak of the bravery of the men and the toughness they needed to have in order to survive.

“Back in those days, all

this grass was beach and water. Can you imagine having to swim?” Taylor asked. “All the survivors on the Utah had to swim all the way out there to a trench near the street all the while being shot at by machine guns. Many had to swim above water and below the water until they made it over there.”

Tania Warnock, granddaughter of David Smith, who was one of the crewmembers serving aboard USS Utah on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, performed a song titled “The Forgotten Ship.”

The Utah was struck by multiple Japanese torpedoes and quickly capsized. The partially submerged hull of the fallen vessel, with the remains of many crewmembers, lies silent in Pearl Harbor to this day.

“If we do ceremonies like this, Sailors are more likely to carry these

**SUNSET MEMORIAL > A2**



U.S. Navy Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Somers Steelman



# Double interment honors Pearl Harbor survivors aboard USS Arizona

**Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Jeffrey Troutman**

*Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element  
Detachment Hawaii*

The first thing Lt. Patrick Zuchelli, from San Luis Obispo, California, noticed was the silence out on the water of Pearl Harbor. It was the 75th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks and he waited patiently for the boat that took him and about 300 others to the USS Arizona Memorial for a special interment service.

“It’s hard to imagine that 75 years ago—at this very moment—this harbor was a scene of great horror and chaos,” Zuchelli said.

“It’s overwhelming and awe-inspiring to think that those men took such a heavy blow on that day, but they never stopped fighting ... never stopped trying to save the ship. Every story you hear about Dec. 7, they’ll tell you that those men never quit.”

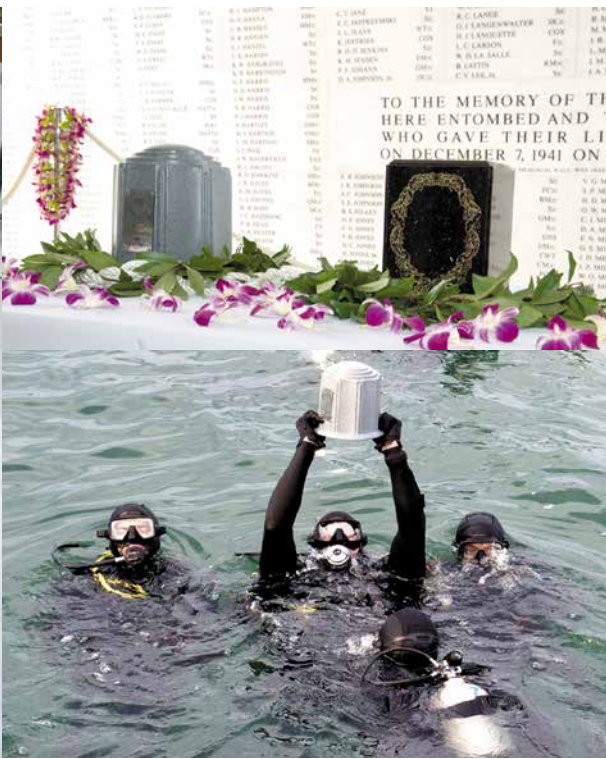
As the boat aligned itself alongside the pier, Zuchelli talked of how the men of Pearl Harbor’s sacrifice will never be in vain.

“This is our Naval legacy and history here in this harbor,” Zuchelli said.

“It’s beautiful to be here paying an honor to these veterans; it’s something I can take back home and tell my junior Sailors about. I hope it instills in them the same sense of honor and selflessness the



(Above) Sailors assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Honors and Ceremonies Detachment present the American flag to the families of John D. Anderson, boatswain’s mate 2nd class, and Clarendon R. Hetrick, seaman 1st class, both USS Arizona survivors, during an interment ceremony on the USS Arizona Memorial, Dec. 7. (Above right) The urns containing the remains of John D. Anderson, boatswain’s mate 2nd class, and Clarendon R. Hetrick, seaman 1st class, await interment at the USS Arizona Memorial.



U.S. Navy photos by Petty Officer 1st Class Nardel Gervacio

men of the Pearl Harbor attacks put forth in their efforts 75 years ago.

The interment service comes with distinction not just for being held on the 75th anniversary of the attacks, but also because it saw not one, but two USS Arizona survivors, both returning to the command they served aboard on that day more than seven decades ago.

Boatswain’s Mate 2nd Class John Anderson was only 24-years-old on the day of the Pearl Harbor attacks. He had requested a transfer to the Arizona

only a short time earlier to be with his brother Jake who was serving on-board. He would never see his brother again after the evening of Dec. 6.

Seaman 1st Class Clarendon “Clare” Hetrick had been aboard just under a year on the morning of the attacks. He would later serve aboard the USS Saratoga and the USS Lexington during World War II.

Both men were among the few to walk away from the Arizona that day. After 75 years, they were coming home to be with their

shipmates once more.

“No other grave site is as sacred in the United States Navy as that of the USS Arizona,” said Rear Adm. John Fuller, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, and commander, Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific.

“We’re honoring these two Pearl Harbor survivors who went on to live full and meaningful lives, despite having to carry the heavy burden of that day throughout their life’s journey. Their efforts on Dec. 7, helped create a nation that is

dedicated to order, justice, civility and peace.”

For the families of these survivors, it was the closure that John and Clarendon had been seeking their entire lives, to return to the scene of that infamous day and be with their shipmates once again.

“This was something Clare had wanted his entire life,” said Darla Hetrick, of Turlock, California, and the wife of Ben Hetrick, Clarendon’s oldest son.

“He’s home now; that’s the only way to describe

this. He’s finally home.”

Ben, fighting tears, turned to the waters along the starboard side of where the Arizona now rests, and smiled.

“Those men my father served with really were the greatest generation,” he said. “And I see how that’s rubbed off on today’s military, which I’m so proud of.”

For the first time in 75 years, John and Clarendon rejoined their brothers on the USS Arizona, and once again assumed the watch aboard the ship.

# USS Oklahoma crew honored during memorial ceremony

**Petty Officer 1st Class  
Phillip Pavlovich**

*Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element Detachment Hawaii*

On the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese Imperial Navy launched an attack on U.S. installations throughout Oahu. They damaged more than 20 naval vessels and more than 300 aircraft, resulting in the death of more than 2,000 Americans.

Among the many ships targeted was the Nevada-class battleship Oklahoma (BB 37), which received 8 torpedo hits within the first 10 minutes of the attack. This continued until a final torpedo capsized and sank her, killing 14 Marines and 415 Sailors.

Seventy-five years later to this day, World War II veterans, Pearl Harbor survivors, friends and family members gathered at the USS Oklahoma Memorial on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, for a commemoration service. This ceremony was in honor of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice aboard the once mighty battleship and throughout the island.

“Of the ships damaged or sunk that morning, the loss of life



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian M. Wilbur

USS Oklahoma survivors Roy Carter (left) and Raymond Richmond, speak with Rear Adm. (ret.) Greg Slavonic, co-chairman of the USS Oklahoma Memorial Ceremony Committee, before the USS Oklahoma Memorial Service on the 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu, Dec. 7.

on USS Oklahoma was second only to USS Arizona,” said Adm. Scott Swift, the commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet and keynote speaker for the ceremony.

“Here today, we honor the 429 service members who gave their lives that morning, as well as the survivors whose stories continue to inspire both current and future generations.”

Several survivors that were aboard Oklahoma during the attack were at the ceremony; living testaments of the past.

“They are living records of the wounds our nation endured on Dec. 7, 1941, and of the resilience that allowed us to fight back, turn the tide of war, and ultimately achieve peace and reconciliation with former ad-

versaries,” said Swift as he addressed the audience.

The ceremony hosted additional speakers who all expressed their gratitude for those who served during World War II. They told stories about what Sailors endured the morning of the attack, the toughness they showed, the initiative they had. One story highlighted was that of Oklahoma survivor Roy Carter, a carpenter’s mate and damage controlman.

As the attack unfolded outside the bulkheads of Oklahoma, Carter said he followed his sense of duty, and began sealing watertight doors. This action, Carter said, was something he felt was the right thing to do. He inadvertently trapped eight Sailors within a compartment below.

In the following two days after the attack, 32 trapped Sailors, including the eight he sealed within the compartment, were rescued by Navy shipyard workers through the use of chisels and air hammers. To this day, Carter says he feels that whatever told him to close that hatch is the reason why those Sailors lived. That action created a watertight space that kept them alive long enough to

be rescued. He’s happy knowing he was able to help out his shipmates.

“They [the Oklahoma Sailors] rejected putting themselves first despite an innate, organic drive to first survive,” Swift said. “Their refusal to accept defeat then still resonates throughout Pacific Fleet now, and remains a great source of inspiration and strength, and fortitude, and forms the core of what is now often referred to as the ‘American fighting spirit.’”

“It is through today’s Pacific Fleet Sailors that the legacy of those who survived the attack extends well beyond Pearl Harbor and across the Indian and Pacific Oceans,” Swift said.

On Dec. 7, 2007, the USS Oklahoma Memorial was formally dedicated as a reminder of the ship and its crew. It is a reminder of the integrity they bore, and the accountability they held to their ship and shipmates. Today the memorial stands on the shores of Ford Island, next to where it was formerly berthed. It’s a place that past, present and future generations can go to remember those who survived and those who gave their lives—those of the “Greatest Generation.”

## Sunset memorial

CONTINUED FROM < A1

stories to their children because this is 75 years ago. Most of these Sailors are not here anymore, and most of the survivors are not here now,” said Retired bandmaster Lt Cmdr. David Hodge of Kingsville, Texas.

“We have to continue the tradition. They served and we tried to embody what they stand for: the loyalty, the honor, courage and commitment, those core values.”

Despite being located in an area not easily accessed by the public, Sailors still take the time to visit the USS Utah Memorial.

“This is my favorite memorial because it’s more serene, the tourists are not here,” Hodge said.

“It’s more of a quiet place. More in tune for American Sailors to come out, feel the spirit of the ship and feel the spirit of the men that are still alive within it.”

The ceremony concluded with a bugle rendition of “Taps,” played by Hodge, and a wreath floral tribute presented by the ceremony’s official party.



The sunset service is part of a series of remembrance events hosted by the U.S. military and the State of Hawaii held Dec. 1 -10 to honor the courage and sacrifices of those who served Dec. 7, 1941, and throughout the Pacific theater.

U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Somers Steelman

Family members of the fallen Sailors of USS Utah leave wreaths honoring their loved ones during a USS Utah Memorial Sunset Service at Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 6.



# Diverse VIEWS



What musical group or performer would you most like to see in concert and why?



**Master Sgt. Jason Grasty**  
647th Logistics Readiness Squadron

"Zakk Wylde, because he is one of the best guitar players in modern music."

**Petty Officer 3rd Class Caleb Haag**  
Navy Region Hawaii

"Foo Fighters. Dave Grohl is one of my favorite singers."



**Master Sgt. Froilan Halili**  
792nd Intelligence Support Squadron

"Bruno Mars, because my wife is a big fan of him."

**Staff Sgt. Justin Weathers**  
15AMXG PACAF

"Radical Redemption. I was born in the Netherlands where they started out."



**Tech. Sgt. Stephen MacCallum**  
PACAF

"Five Finger Death Punch."

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian Williams**  
Navy Region Hawaii, Boat Det.

"Breaking Benjamin. They are just that good."



**Master Sgt. Marie Mahoney**  
692nd Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group

"Bruddah Iz, because I enjoy the local Hawaiian music."

*Provided by David D. Underwood Jr. and Petty Officer 1st Class Corwin Colbert*

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com)

Commentary

## Pearl Harbor survivors changed the world

**Rear Adm. John Fuller**

*Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific*

Rear Adm. John Fuller provided remarks to nearly 200 veterans and several dozen Pearl Harbor survivors at the 75th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony at Kilo Pier at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 7.

To our most-honored guests—Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans—thank you for honoring us with your participation at the 75th Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony, Dec. 7.

We are holding events for you. Our objective and theme is: "Honoring the past, Inspiring the future."

We remember your lost shipmates. We salute your service and your families' service. We offer our most heartfelt thanks for all you sacrificed and suffered.

Most of you veterans were teenagers or in your early twenties and away from home for the first time.



Rear Adm. John Fuller

Back home, your families longed to hear the news about the attack. Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, grandparents, loved ones—all desperate to know the fate of their boys.

Meanwhile, you—the Pearl Harbor survivors—faced the grueling recovery and restoration.

Joined by Navy divers, civilian shipyard workers and citizens of Hawaii you responded, you rebuilt and you resurrected Pearl Harbor and the Pacific Fleet. You felt the shock, the grief and then the need to bring

the world back in balance.

In the days after the attack facts and information crawled along but rumors raced at light-speed. It would take weeks to get detailed news to your families. And in some cases it took months.

People stood in endless lines at Western Union in Honolulu. On the mainland, families waited at home and wondered. Some mothers and fathers received the worst-possible news—the news they dreaded.

Family, ohana, kazoku...

Family is our most precious institution and most precious possession. Yet in war, innocent families are always victims.

Historian Ken Burns chronicled the Second World War—both in Europe and here in the Pacific. He called that war "the greatest cataclysm in history."

It "grew out of ancient and ordinary human emotions—anger and arrogance and bigotry, victimhood and the lust for power. And it ended because other human qualities—courage and

perseverance and selflessness, faith, leadership and the hunger for freedom combined ... to change the course of human events."

Those who served in World War II, you earned the freedom and prosperity we enjoy. You delivered that legacy with your toughness and grit and because of your honor, courage and commitment.

Those of you who served in World War II ushered in the current era of peace and prosperity that we have enjoyed for decades—with your blood, sweat and tears.

You re-created a world dedicated to order, justice and stability. You preserved freedom. You built reconciliation. You created greater equality and civil rights.

And you earned our commitment to forever "Remember Pearl Harbor."

Your lives changed on the morning of December 7, 1941. After that day you would change the world forever. As a humble beneficiary, I simply want to offer a sincere and heartfelt—thank you.

## New exhibit unveiled at USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 6

**Lt. Tia Nichole McMillen**

*Submarine Forces Pacific Public Affairs*

Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Rear Adm. Frederick "Fritz" J. Roegge, in partnership with Chuck Merkel, executive director of the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, unveiled a new submarine exhibit in honor of the 75th commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 6.

Roegge spoke to more than 150 guests, military and civilian, about the importance of the submarine force during World War II.

"Within hours of the attack, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Harold Stark ordered, 'Execute against Japan unrestricted air and submarine warfare.' Our submarines were the only forces able to immedi-



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael H. Lee

Rear Adm. Fredrick "Fritz" Roegge, commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, addresses guests during an unveiling of a new submarine exhibit at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 6.

ately begin war patrols. They carried the battle across the Pacific and into Imperial Japanese home waters while the fleet was repaired," he said.

He explained that while the submarine forces made up only two percent of our entire

Navy, they sank 30 percent of all Japanese warships, and 55 percent of all Japanese merchant ships sunk during the war.

"Submariners also paid the heavy price of the greatest casualty rate of any American branch of service in the war,"

Roegge said.

"Submariners are well-aware that the challenges of World War II produced some of our greatest successes, our greatest heroes, and our greatest sacrifices."

Roegge explained the intention behind the exhibit by saying, "It's hard to find that important story within the existing narrative on display across the many museums and memorials that fill the horizon, and failing to highlight those details reflects a missed opportunity—not only to honor our heroes, but to share our story here at Hawaii's most popular tourist and historical destination until today."

Today, we begin to share that story—honoring our heroes—with a new display located in front of the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, free and accessible to anyone visiting Pearl Harbor's iconic landmarks.

## Hickam, Pearl Harbor bombed

This is a photo taken at Hickam Field framing the devastating results of the Imperial Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941. A camouflaged Boeing B-17E Flying Fortress is in the foreground, and a silver B-17D is visible in the background. The smoke in the background is from the USS Arizona which had been bombed.

U.S. Army Air Corps photo



Connect with us on ISSUU at [issuu.com/navyregionhawaii](http://issuu.com/navyregionhawaii). Download the app and view a digital copy of Ho'okele. Flip through the pages on your mobile device.

## HO'okele

Commander,  
Navy Region Hawaii  
**Rear Adm. John V. Fuller**

Chief of Staff  
**Capt. James W. Jenks**

Commander, Joint Base  
Pearl Harbor-Hickam  
**Capt. Stanley Kieve Jr.**

Deputy Commander  
**Col. Richard Smith**

Director, Navy Region  
Hawaii Public Affairs  
**Agnes Tauyan**

Deputy Director,  
Public Affairs  
**Bill Doughty**

Director, Joint Base  
Pearl Harbor-Hickam  
Public Affairs  
**Grace Hew Len**

Managing Editor  
**Anna Marie General**  
Editor  
**Don Robbins**

Assistant Editor  
**Brandon Bosworth**

Sports Editor  
**Randy Dela Cruz**

Sr. Graphic Artist  
**Antonio Verceluz**

Graphic Artist  
**Michelle Poppler**

Ho'okele is a free unofficial paper published every Friday by The Honolulu Star Advertiser 500 Ala Moana Boulevard Suite 7-500 Honolulu Hawaii 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii. All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) World Wide Web address: <https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/Hawaii/> or [www.hookelenews.com](http://www.hookelenews.com). This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Star Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii or The Honolulu Star Advertiser. Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source. Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy and Air Force installations throughout Oahu.



# Peace and reconciliation emphasized at Blackened Canteen Ceremony

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeffrey Troutman**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment Hawaii*

On a warm June evening in 1945, in the skies over Shizuoka, Japan, two U.S. Army Air Force B-29s from 314th Bomb Wing collided during a planned bombing raid, killing all 23 American crewmen on board.

Down below, more than 2,000 Shizuoka citizens also perished in the raid. The horror of war had reared its head once again.

According to historical accounts, the flames of the wreckage served to illuminate this blackest of nights. From this tragedy emerged the tradition of the Blackened Canteen, an artifact recovered from the wreckage site the next morning by Fukumatsu Itoh. Itoh was a Shizuoka citizen who survived the raid.

Dr. Hiroya Sugano, a child at the time of the raid, was also out that day observing the wreckage site with his family. The sense of grief was practically tangible, Sugano recalled.

The canteen, scarred and bruised, though still intact, bore the handprint of what Itoh imagined was the canteen's owner. As per his devotion to Buddhism, Itoh coordinated a proper burial for the American crewman alongside Shi-



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Somers Steelman

(Left to right) Shiro Wakita, former WWII Imperial Japanese Navy pilot; Dr. Hiroya Sugano M.D, director general of the Zero Fighter Admirers Club; Jack Detour, former colonel and WWII Army Air Force B-25 pilot; Jerry Yellin, former captain and WWII Army Air Force P-51 pilot, pour bourbon whiskey at the sixth annual Blackened Canteen ceremony, Dec. 6.

zuoka residents who also lost their lives that day. This began a tradition of the annual Blackened Canteen ceremony, held around the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks.

Initially, every year, Itoh would visit the B-29 crash site to honor both the American crewman and the citizens of Shizuoka with the pouring of bourbon whiskey from the canteen onto the ground. According to Itoh, this honored the spirits of the fallen. Over time he weathered criticism and

outright scorn for his actions from his countrymen, but Itoh would not be deterred from his yearly homage to the fallen. To Itoh, this was part of the forgiveness and healing process.

In 1991, Sugano started a yearly journey to Pearl Harbor, to visit the USS Arizona Memorial and expanded upon Itoh's tradition by pouring whiskey from the canteen into the waters surrounding the memorial.

Together, the tradition set forth by Itoh and

Sugano helped parallel the long, peaceful relationship between the U.S. and Japan that continues to this day.

In 2016, for the 75th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks, the sixth annual Blackened Canteen ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial saw the tradition's most impressive turnout yet. Itoh's dream of peace and reconciliation was realized in full as the sun rose over the waters of Pearl Harbor.

"War is tragic, and it

brings out the worst in us," said Jacqueline Ashwell, superintendent of the National Park Service's World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument and guest speaker at the event.

"We are here to honor those who died on that fateful day in 1945, but also everyone who died during World War II. It's through this ceremony that we can extend peace and hope into the future."

Following a hymnal from Dartmouth College Choir, Ken DeHoff, the executive director of the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, spoke of the Blackened Canteen ceremony's significance as proof of how far the United States and Japan have come since World War II.

"This event with its historic tradition represents the unity our countries have shown moving forward. Now, during the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, unity, and peacefulness are more important than ever. This canteen tradition not only honors our respective countries' fallen but also celebrates the strength of our relationship today," DeHoff said.

Sugano spoke with a hushed reverence, humbled by the turnout and expressed his appreciation to the attendees.

"I cannot begin to express my gratitude for all of you waking up early to join us,"

Sugano said. "It was Itoh's wish to see the people of Japan and the United States together as one, honoring his message of peace."

Sugano's remarks punctuated more than seven decades of ongoing peace and prosperity that has been a cornerstone of the U.S.—Japan alliance.

After the remarks, Sugano, Ashwell and Dehoff led two groups of dignitaries to the open well of the memorial and each poured ceremonial whiskey from the canteen into the waters of the USS Arizona wreckage site, which sparkled in the morning sun.

"This ceremony and the very literal outpouring of respect proves that goodwill truly has no boundaries," said Chaplain Robert Lawrence, of Fall River, Massachusetts, who gave the benediction.

Once the whiskey had been ceremonially dispersed, the attendees lined up to toss traditional plumeria blossoms into the well. Within a moment, the waters were blanketed in flora, a final offering to the spirits of the fallen.

From below waters the crew members of the USS Arizona were honored with the sight of hundreds of blossoms fluttering down into the water as U.S. and Japanese survivors of war stood together, united by peace, friendship, and forgiveness.

# Pearl Harbor survivor becomes honorary bandmaster

**Petty Officer 1st Class Phillip Pavlovich**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment Hawaii*

He steps on stage, takes in and releases a deep breath; pausing just for a moment. He looks out over a sea of Sailors armed with musical instruments. His hands raise, and with a smile on his face, he delivers the signal to begin playing.

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band appointed Ira "Ike" Schab as an honorary bandmaster, Dec. 5, during a concert at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center in remembrance of the 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu, Dec. 7, 1941.

"I was so shocked and surprised when I found out I was going to be an honorary bandmaster," Schab said. "I'm so lost for words," he said.

Schab, the sole living survivor of Navy Band Unit 13, enlisted in the Navy in 1939 after a successful tuba audition. Upon completing the Navy School of Music in Washington, D.C., he reported to USS Raleigh (CL-7) as a Musician 1st Class in 1940, homeported in

Pearl Harbor. His hope: to one day become a bandmaster.

"When I first heard he requested to be a bandmaster years ago, but never received the opportunity, the first thing I did was contact our leadership in Washington, D.C., to see if we could make him an honorary bandmaster," Lt. Kelly L. Cartwright, bandmaster of U.S. Pacific Fleet Band said.

"To see the look on his face and everyone in the audience made it an incredible experience."

Navy Band 13 relocated aboard USS Dobbin (AD-3) when the Raleigh went into the shipyards. During the morning of the attack, Schab spent the day passing ammunition to gunners, everyone working tirelessly to take down enemy aircraft.

"Ira's naval career and his life are the embodiment of the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment. He held himself accountable as a Sailor, honoring his role as a musician during a challenging time in U.S. Naval history. He always remained professional to overcome the challenges that were presented," said



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Nardel Gervacio

Pearl Harbor survivor and honorary bandmaster Ira John Schab conducts the Pacific Fleet Band during a public performance at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, Dec. 5.

Petty Officer 1st Class Alex Ivy, tuba instrumentalist with U.S. Pacific Fleet Band.

When Schab took the stage to conduct "Still, There" by Brett Abigana, his eldest daughter Michelle Ware said

she was overwhelmed with emotion and was so proud of her dad.

"He says he doesn't cry anymore so I teared up for the both of us," Ware said.

Before Schab stepped on

stage, members of the band presented him with a certificate officially giving him the title of Honorary Bandmaster, a lei and a U.S. Pacific Fleet Band command ball cap.

"It's truly an honor to be here and be a part of history," Ivy said.

"Not only am I able to do something that only very few people get to do, but to help honor someone that went through the attack on Pearl Harbor is truly humbling. The sacrifice these guys gave is something I cannot forget."

During the concert, the band played a wide range of music from all the military service songs to Jazz from the 30s and 40s to honor the Pearl Harbor survivors in attendance.

"It's our way of acknowledging the heritage and tradition to play the same music as our forebearers," Cartwright said. "I hope it was sentimental for him and he will remember that era in his life."

As the last notes filled the air, the band lowered their instruments and everyone in attendance began to clap. In a roar of applause and cheers, the newest bandmaster for the U.S. Navy departed the stage.

# PACOM salutes Japanese-American World War II veterans

**Story and photo by Lisa Ferdinando**

*DoD News, Defense Media Activity*

Japanese-Americans served and fought valiantly for the United States during World War II, demonstrating bravery and loyalty in the face of hostility and discrimination, shaping the nation we live in today, according to Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

Speaking at the "Fighting Two Wars" tribute to Japanese-American veterans of World War II at the Hawaii Convention Center Dec. 5, Harris said the veterans, known in Japanese as Nisei, or second generation, established a distinguished record of battlefield courage and achievement.

"The Nisei warriors literally shaped our military and our nation," Harris said.

Even though Japanese-Americans faced opposition or were told they weren't qualified for military service after the Pearl Harbor attack, they

persevered, Harris said.

"Our country hasn't always dealt minorities and immigrants a fair shake—even those who are American citizens," Harris said.

"That said, the many cultures resident in the American experience share a common underpinning of honor, pride, and perseverance that has added immeasurably to our strength as a nation."

After the Dec. 7, 1941, surprise attack, many Japanese-Americans were barred from U.S. military service, branded as enemies of their own country. Japanese-Americans were also forced into internment camps on the West Coast.

Harris said he was born in Japan and has spent almost half of his career in the Pacific. His father was an American Sailor and his mother was Japanese, he said.

"It's no exaggeration for me to say that I stand on the shoulders of giants," Harris said. "For me to be a Japanese-American four-star admiral in command of all joint forces across the Indo-Asia-Pacific, well it's because of

these Nisei trailblazers."

Harris said he was inspired to serve because of his father and four uncles who all fought for America in World War II.

"Everything my father and uncles went through, the Nisei warriors went through—and more," he said, "because they also had to deal with the discrimination, distrust, and outright hostility from the very same country they were defending with their very same lives, from our country, yours and mine."

The Japanese-American units included the 100th Infantry Battalion, Military Intelligence Service, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion. Three-hundred Nisei women joined the Women's Army Corps.

Twenty-one Americans of Japanese ancestry received the Medal of Honor during World War II, including the late U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, who was an Army officer who was recognized for actions in Italy in 1945.

Harris lauded Japan's role today in helping to



Adm. Harry B Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Command, speaks at a tribute for Japanese-American veterans who served in World War II, Dec. 5.

maintain global peace and security—and noted the Asia-Pacific is a region that is strategically important to the United States.

"The United States needs to expand partnerships among like-minded nations to uphold the rules-based global operating system that arose after World War II. That will allow the In-

do-Asia-Pacific region to continue along the prosperous and peaceful path that has served it so well for more than 70 years," he said.

"Today, Japan is a critical part of that network and a staunch defender of the global operating system."

President Barack Obama and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo

Abe are scheduled to meet later this month in Hawaii, said Harris, noting both leaders will visit the Pearl Harbor memorial together. This would be the first time a Japanese prime minister will have visited the memorial, he said.

"This reconciliation is part of the great legacy of the Nisei veterans," Harris said.



# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Robert Sweet

The U.S. Pacific Air Forces color guard prepares to post colors during the Freedom Bell Opening Ceremony and Bell Ringing at USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 6. Civilians, veterans and service members gathered to remember and pay their respects to those who fought and lost their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Rebecca Wolfbrandt

Above, Seton Hall men's basketball coaches look down at oil still leaking from the USS Arizona during the Fox Sports Pearl Harbor Invitational harbor tour and visit to the USS Arizona Memorial, Dec. 4.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael H. Lee

Kahu Kelekona Bishaw, right, and World War II veterans perform a blessing during an America's Freedom Bell ringing ceremony at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 7.



Ray Chavez, 104, the oldest living Pearl Harbor survivor, rings the Freedom Bell during the Freedom Bell Opening Ceremony and Bell Ringing at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Dec. 6.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Wesley Timm



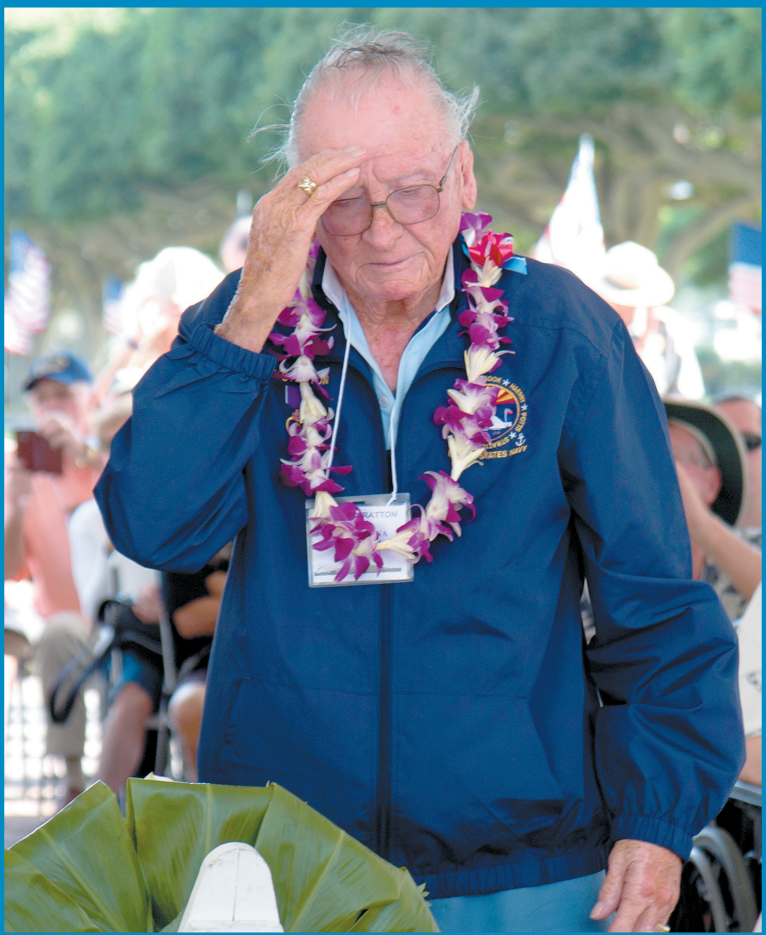
U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

Hana Hou, the U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific-Hawaii rock ensemble, perform holiday and rock music during a performance at Sunset on the Beach's Air Force night Dec. 2 at Waikiki Beach.





PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: U.S. Navy photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian M. Wilbur, Petty Officer 3rd Class Cole C. Pielo, Petty Officer 2nd Class Katarzyna Kobiljak and Petty Officer 1st Class Rebecca Wolfbrandt



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Gabrielle Joyner  
Above, Pearl Harbor survivor Donald Stratton salutes a wreath presented by the USS Arizona Reunion Association during a ceremony to honor the fallen men of the Pennsylvania-class battleship USS Arizona at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Dec. 2.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Gabrielle Joyner  
Pearl Harbor survivor Lauren Bruner visits with attendees after a ceremony to honor the fallen men of the Pennsylvania-class battleship USS Arizona at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Dec. 2.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael H. Lee  
Rear Adm. Fredrick "Fritz" Roegge, commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, greets a Pearl Harbor survivor during the unveiling of a new submarine exhibit at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Somers Steelman  
An audience of veterans and spectators from the United States and Japan attend the 6th annual Blackened Canteen ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial during the 75th Commemoration of the attacks on Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Somers Steelman  
Jerry Yellin, former captain and WWII Army Air Force P-51 pilot embraces Dr. Hiroya Sugano M.D., director general of the Zero Fighter Admirers Club during the 6th annual Blackened Canteen ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial during the 75th Commemoration of the attacks on Pearl Harbor.



# ‘The forgotten ship’ no more: USS Utah honored

**Story and photo by  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Corwin M. Colbert**

*Navy Region Hawaii  
Public Affairs*

It was dubbed the forgotten ship. It was a Florida-class battleship that was, ironically, an anti-aircraft gunnery training ship active in Pearl Harbor. Crippled by Japanese torpedoes, it rolled over with its crew members scrambling for their lives.

Listening to Glen Miller’s “Elmer’s Tune” which was number one on the Hit Parade, a popular ranking of music at the time, retired Chief Electronics Technician Gilbert Meyer, a crew member of USS Utah (BB-31/AG-16), was performing his normal duties.

“After watching a movie and listening to music, I went on the midnight to 4 a.m. watch,” he said. “After that, I was dead tired so I went to my rack two decks below on the starboard side.”

Four hours later his life changed forever. Eight in the morning normally is a patriotic moment when col-



(Right) Retired Chief Petty Officer Gilbert Meyer, a USS Utah and Pearl Harbor survivor, and Capt. Jeffrey Rathbun, U.S. Pacific Fleet command deputy director, Logistics, Engineering and Security Cooperation, return honors to USS Halsey (DDG 97) as the ship sailed past the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor as part of a pass-in-review and salute to USS Arizona and Pearl Harbor survivors, Dec. 7.

ors are performed. This is when you raise the American flag, salute and carry out the plan of the day.

For Meyer and his shipmates, their lives were endangered a minute following colors.

“A torpedo hit the port side, the second torpedo hit and got my attention and I had to start climbing up top-side,” Meyer said.

“Some of the crew saw the fighter planes coming but I was sleeping and I didn’t know what was going on. All

I knew was the ship was in peril. The sound of the ship as it was rolling over scared me. Many of the men had already swum to shore; I swam to shore in my skivvies.”

Sixty-four men paid the ultimate price for their country in a matter of minutes.

Today, the watery grave and humble reminder of those brave Sailors sits partially submerged as a memorial on the opposite side of its famous sister ship

USS Arizona at Ford Island.

The Utah Memorial is a beautiful and solemn white wooden L-shaped pier reaching into the calm blue water of Pearl Harbor. It turns left pointing to souls of the Greatest Generation still inside the ship, its deep brown rusty hull contrasting with the sea. Though not all those lost are physically entombed inside, the fact that the ship is so close to the shoreline, almost in touching distance, makes the memorial that much

more personal.

More than a million tourists visit Pearl Harbor each year. Few know where Utah resides. No tour buses or guides make their way to the other side. There are no honors rendered unless there is a specific event normally for and/or by the survivors.

In fact, the Naval Telecommunications Procedures Flags, Pennants and Customs publication states, “When a Navy ship is passing the USS Arizona Memorial, between sunrise and sunset, passing honors consisting of sounding ‘Attention’ and rendering the hand salute by all persons in view on deck and not in ranks shall be executed by that ship.” Not so for the USS Utah.

These are a few of the many reasons why Utah was dubbed “The Forgotten Ship.”

Forgotten no more—On Dec. 7, 2016, during the 75th Anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, the day came, symbolically, for the “forgotten” to be remembered.

On a day when the

weather was eerily the same 75 years ago, clear with clouds over the mountain range, USS Halsey (DDG 97) an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer sailed around Ford Island as part of a Pass-in-Review and salute to USS Arizona and Pearl Harbor survivors. Before passing by the USS Arizona, however, with the crew on deck in their dress uniforms, they paid their respects to the officers and enlisted of Utah.

There to return the salute was Meyer.

Meyer is well into his 90’s, recovering from chemo surgery, tired and frail. However, this ‘Greatest Generation’ Sailor popped tall and saluted for more than three minutes as the modern haze gray giant slowly cruised by with this generation’s Sailors popping just as tall, mirroring his gesture.

Meyer said the moment was emotional and special for him but he felt he fulfilled a higher calling.

“All I was thinking about standing there was my shipmates,” Meyer said. “This was special and it was for my shipmates.”

# WWII veterans arrive in Honolulu via honor flight

**Petty Officer 1st Class  
Rebecca Wolfbrandt**

*Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element Detachment Hawaii*

Past and present met today when Sailors from Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) greeted more than 100 World War II veterans, including Pearl Harbor survivors, when they arrived at the Honolulu International Airport for the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration events throughout the island of Oahu.

Sailors headed the line, with civilians, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Marines standing by with lei to welcome the veterans back to the island. Among those Sailors, was Petty Officer 2nd Class Talisha Williams, from Fresno, California.

Williams, a quartermaster assigned to JBPHH, has been in the Navy for eight years and is in charge of the honors and ceremonial guard on base. This is her third Pearl Harbor anniversary and said she looks forward to seeing the veterans every year.

“I’m glad I’m here for the 75th anniversary because as the years go on, we are going to have less and less veterans that we will be able to talk to,” Williams said. “So, it’s nice we get to do this now.”

As veterans filed off the plane, clapping and cheers filled the concourse. The excitement lasted until the last veteran deplaned.



Williams made it a point to shake each one of their hands.

“Actually getting to meet people that were there that day and hear their stories, that is really inspiring to me,” Williams said.

This honor was shared among all the spectators at the airport.

“It is so exciting and such an honor to be a part of it,” said Heather Bailey, the director of operations for MC & A, who prepared the Honor Flight reception.

“It’s a momentous time in history. To have the opportunity to honor these people personally that were there on that fateful day was really exciting to be here.”

Petty Officer 3rd Class Lauren Charping, a Sailor assigned



Sailors assigned to various commands throughout Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam greet World War II veterans and Pearl Harbor survivors arriving at Honolulu International Airport, Dec. 3.

to Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii from Charlotte, North Carolina, was also touched by the arrival of the veterans.

“I didn’t expect how much it would move me to see them when they came out. They were so

humble and so happy to see us,” she said. “They were absolutely surprised. It brought me to tears.”

American Airlines donated the charter plane that flew the veterans from Los Angeles to Honolulu. Also on the flight, were Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band, who

performed a special 75th commemoration concert on Dec. 5.

The World War II veterans participated in a number of events throughout the week honoring their service and also paid tribute to the inspiration they have provided.

# Pearl Harbor survivors, visitors get first glimpse of documentary film

**Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element  
Detachment Hawaii**

Pearl Harbor survivors, family members and visitors watched the premiere of “Remember Pearl Harbor” in silence as they paid tribute to its honored guests, the survivors of Pearl Harbor, at the Pacific Aviation Museum, Dec. 4.

The World War II Foundation’s film focused on the personal stories of those who served in Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, or those who witnessed the events that took place that day.

Four survivors of USS Arizona attended, as well as two Medal of Honor recipients, Hershel Woody Williams and Gary Littrell. Also in attendance were the oldest survivors of Pearl Harbor, Ray Chavez, 104, who served as a Seaman First Class on USS Condor and James Downing, 103, who served as a Postmaster on USS West Virginia.

Daniel Martinez, chief historian of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument in Hawaii, spoke in the film about the events of Pearl Harbor.

“Pearl Harbor is the touchstone of history,” said Martinez in the film. “It’s where World War II began



for the United States.”

Among the visitors was Petty Officer 2nd Class Kevin G. Smith, of Frederick, Maryland, who planned the trip to the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration events five years ago.

“I have a passion for veterans because I come from a military family of veterans,” Smith said. “My grandfather was in the Navy during World War II, my uncle was in the Navy during the Korean War, my cousin is a retired Chief and I had five uncles in the Army, one of which served in Vietnam.”

Smith proudly displayed a document from the 2010 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. A doc-

ument he had signed by seven Pearl Harbor survivors.

During his current visit to the island, Smith said he was able to meet USS Arizona survivor Donald Stratton, a moment he felt honored to have been a part of.

In the film, the survivors expressed what they would like everyone to remember: who they were, what they witnessed and the men and women who lost their lives, were injured or went missing on Dec. 7, 1941.

“Remembering,” however, was not lost on Smith. “We need to keep this history alive so the next generations can understand the importance of honoring

those who served and remembering the events so that the same mistakes aren’t made in the future.”

(Above) Pearl Harbor survivors and their family members attend a presentation of the World War II documentary “Remember Pearl Harbor” at Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 4.

(Right) World War II veteran Hershel “Woody” Williams, an Iwo Jima Medal of Honor recipient, waves to the audience after being recognized for his service.

**U.S. Navy photos by Petty Officer 2nd  
Class Jeff Troutman**





# Family, friends honor fallen Hickam sergeant

Story and photo by  
Staff Sgt. Alexander  
Martinez

*Pacific Air Forces Public  
Affairs*

Durward Swanson, a 95-year-old survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and Oahu was reciting a song in memoriam of his late friend, Sgt. James Strickland, during the dedication of Strickland's memorial marker at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 4.

"The barracks now are silent where once your laughter rang, the steel guitar is broken where around the bunks we sang," Swanson sang as his raspy, aged voice cracked with emotion.

Also attending the ceremony were Strickland's



Durward Swanson and his escort (left), and Senior Master Sgt. Martin Sebok, an aircraft functional manager at PACAF, view a memorial marker for Sgt. James Strickland during the marker's dedication ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 4.

family members, event Forces (PACAF) Airmen, see the unveiling of the organizers and Pacific Air all of whom were able to stone marker located be-

tween three towering palm trees in the area where Strickland died.

"We've heard partial stories growing up from my grandfather but he didn't like to talk about it," said Michael Gordon Bolton, Strickland's great nephew.

"A lot of information has come to light in the last year and we're so appreciative of the support."

Senior Master Sgt. Martin Sebok, a PACAF aircraft functional manager, was an officer with the Hickam Top III private organization last year when he decided he wanted to make this project a reality.

"It's a great feeling to know that [Strickland] finally gets to see this come to fruition," Sebok said. "Seeing every one here is special and it's something I'm going to hold on to."

In 1941, the PACAF

headquarters building, located beside the memorial marker, was a 3,200-man barracks facility where Strickland and Swanson were barrack-mates and became friends. On the day of the attack, Strickland was fleeing the building when he was shot by Japanese gunfire. By his side was Swanson, who fled to get medical aid for his friend, but returned too late as Strickland had already passed away.

"Different from Pearl Harbor, we too had our tragedy," said Jessie Higa, a tour guide and volunteer Hickam historian.

"[Swanson] has relived that day a lot, and his stories and memories from that day have been tucked away for many years. Today he gets to share them with us and honor his best friend."

# Pearl Harbor survivor unveils piece of his own history

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

*Assistant editor, Ho'okele*

Dick Girocco, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, visited Hangar 54 on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 6.

At the time of the attack, Girocco was a 20-year-old U.S. Navy Seaman assigned to the PBY Catalina sea-plane detachment, which at the time was based out of Hangar 54. It was his first duty station. When the bombs began falling on the morning of Dec. 7, Girocco and his shipmates weren't initially sure what was going on.

"At first we thought it was the Army Air Corps," he said. "They used to dive bomb us with flour sacks."

Soon it became obvious that Pearl Harbor was under enemy attack. Girocco and his crew fled the hangar and sought shelter in a ditch nearby.

During World War II, Girocco participated in both the Battle of Midway and the Guadalcanal Campaign. After the war, he remained in the Navy until 1960. Girocco continued to work in the aerospace industry where he participated in the Apollo program. He retired in 1985, and moved to Hawaii in 1987.

Girocco is a regular visitor to Ford Island, where he volunteers at the Pacific Aviation Museum on Tuesdays, Thursdays and weekends. He has also previously returned to Hangar 54, which is now home to the Center for Security Forces Detachment Pearl Harbor.



However, the Dec. 6 visit was unique. A sealed crate containing unused beaching gear from a PBY Catalina was opened for the first time in more than 70 years. It was the same sort of gear Girocco had worked with as a young Sailor. Despite the span of years, the tires were still inflated and the whole apparatus appeared to be in working order.

"This is amazing," Girocco said. "These things look brand new. It's terrific."

The beaching gear will be attached to a PBY Catalina that will be loaned to the Pacific Aviation Museum and put on display.

Pearl Harbor survivor Dick Girocco inspects the beaching gear of a PBY Catalina that has been in storage for more than 70 years during a visit to Ford Island, JBPHH, Dec. 6.



# USS Arizona survivors honor fallen heroes at wreath-laying ceremony

**Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Katarzyna Kobiljak**

*Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment*

USS Arizona survivors were joined by their families, service members and civilians to honor their fallen shipmates lost during the Pearl Harbor attack in a wreath-laying ceremony Dec. 2 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Observance started when four of the USS Arizona survivors: Lauren Bruner, Lou Conter, Ken Potts and Don Stratton were “piped aboard” by an Honorary Boatswain’s Mate. Active duty service members, veterans and USS Arizona survivors rendered a hand salute as the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Honors and Ceremonial Guard paraded the colors.

Following opening remarks, and the invocation, Jaqueline Ashwell, the National Park Service Superintendent and guest speaker, read an archived letter to the Navy Chief of the Bureau of Navigation from a mother, whose son was killed while serving aboard



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Gabrielle Joyner

Pearl Harbor survivor Donald Stratton (right) and his son Randy Stratton lay a wreath down on behalf of the USS Arizona Reunion Association during a ceremony to honor the fallen men of the Pennsylvania-class battleship USS Arizona at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Dec. 2.

USS Arizona.

The letter recounted the emotional rollercoaster of Lawrence Griffin’s mother, who pleaded for news on the whereabouts of her son, a question that had, unbeknownst to her, was already answered by the tragedies of war.

“If he is gone, God

bless his young soul,” her words called through Ashwell. “All I can say, if he died, just the way he wanted to die in the service of his country and democracy.”

After finishing the letter, Ashwell remarked how important, as curators of history,

we are entrusted with educating future generations about memories like this letter.

“Every visitor, American or not, should visit the Arizona Memorial and look at the wall to see several sets of brothers, fathers and sons who served on the same ship,” said retired

Rear Adm. Samuel Cox, director of the Naval History and Heritage Command and one of the distinguished guests.

“They didn’t expect war to happen that morning, but everyone of them did their duty and gave everything for their country.”

According to Cox, the names on the wall serve as a reminder of the perfect cross-section of immigrants and people who came from all over the country to serve together and made the ultimate sacrifice together.

“When you’re looking at the freedoms that we have today, they were bought at the cost with the lives of the Sailors and Soldiers,” Cox said.

“The Constitution is great, the Bill of Rights is great, but the reason that we have them 200 years later is because of the blood of Sailors and Airmen, Soldiers and Marines who made the sacrifice so we can still have those freedoms.”

The ceremony concluded with a prayer, a moment of silence, and a gun salute.

During the playing of “Taps” Pearl Harbor survivor Don Stratton and his son, Randy, laid a ceremonial wreath in front of the memorial that appropriately read, “In these gardens are recorded the names of Americans who gave their lives in the service of their country and whose earthly resting place is known only to God.”

# JBPHH dedicates tower to Dec. 7 attacks veteran Lt. Gen. Gordon A. Blake

**Story and photos by  
Tech Sgt. Taylor Worley**

*Headquarters Pacific Air Forces*

Three generations of family, friends and members of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam community gathered to honor and remember U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Gordon A. Blake during a tower dedication ceremony, Dec. 5.

Blake, then a major in the Army Air Corps, was stationed at Hickam Field as the base operations officer during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and Oahu.

Blake was on the Hickam flight line when Japanese aircraft began their surprise attack on the field and without consideration for his own personal safety he proceeded to the control tower where he personally directed the landing of 12 unarmed returning B-17 Stratofores to five separate air strips across Oahu. His courage and knowledge were instrumental in the safe landing of the aircraft amid the attack.

For his courage and ded-

ication to the safety of the aircraft and fellow Airmen, Blake received the Silver Star.

Now, 75 years later, he is being honored again for his bravery that fateful day as Airmen unveiled a plaque detailing Blake’s actions.

With a speech and memories shared by retired Col. Robert Blake, Blake’s youngest son, and a Hawaiian prayer and blessing, the aircraft control tower at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam was dedicated in honor of Lt. Gen. Blake.

“[This is] an enormous tribute to an unbelievable man” retired Col. Blake, “what a sterling career he had and brought up his family in those [same] kind of values.”

The ceremony concluded with a performance by the USO Show Troupe and tours of the tower for attendees.

The event was part of an island-wide joint commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu.



(Above) U.S. Air Force retired Col. Robert Blake speaks during the tower dedication ceremony in honor of his father, Lt. Gen. Gordon A. Blake, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 5. (Left) A memorial plaque was unveiled during the tower dedication ceremony in honor of Lt. Gen. Gordon A. Blake, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 5.



# Pearl Harbor white boat crew reflect on significance of history, tradition

**Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Jeffrey Troutman**

*Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element Detach-  
ment Hawaii*

“I’ve been looking forward to this moment for quite a while now, and it’s finally here,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Wren Pettett, of Atoka, Oklahoma. “You always hear so much about the history of Pearl Harbor, but to actually be a part of that history...”

His voice trails off as he tries to find words that describe his emotions. Over his shoulder, the sun begins to set behind the Battleship Missouri Memorial, and to his right, the USS Arizona Memorial.

Each day, Pettett has the honor of driving one of the white boats that tour the waters of Pearl Harbor, as visitors from around the world come to pay their respects and learn about the history that lives in infamy after that fateful December day in 1941.

Today, Pettett drove around perhaps the most important kind of visitor: the survivors of the Pearl Harbor attacks and their families, here to honor the 75th anniversary of one of the United States’ darkest days. For the young Oklahoman, he expressed that opportunity of a lifetime doesn’t begin to justify the honor.

“But to have the honor of driving a boat carrying survivors of the Pearl Harbor attacks for the 75th anniversary...it brings a new kind of self-worth to this job. It makes me happy to be alive in this moment, to serve at this particular moment in history,” Pettett said.

As the survivors and their family members make their way onto a white boat, moments from reuniting with the memo-



U.S. Navy photos by Petty Officer 1st Class Rebecca Wolfbrandt

(Top) A Pearl Harbor survivor stands at attention while approaching the USS Arizona Memorial during a World War II veterans harbor tour, Dec. 5. (Above) Peter B. Dupre’, a World War II veteran, plays “America the Beautiful” at the USS Arizona Memorial.

ries of a day long past but never forgotten, Seaman Erwinn Garrett of Houston, Texas, renders honors to a Medal of Honor recipient.

Garrett, like Pettett, said he needs a moment to take in the fullness of his day, with the survivors, before he can accurately describe its impact on him.

“If there’s one thing I’ve learned from the survivors, it’s that there really is no shipmate that gets left behind,” Garrett said.

“These men didn’t just work together; they lived together and died together. And for them to come back year after year, decade after decade, to honor their fallen shipmates, it sets a precedent for any generation of our Navy.”

The survivors take their seats and the boat pulls away from the pier making its way out past historic, Ford Island and heads first towards the USS Utah Memorial.

Chief Petty Officer

Michael Sears, from Clatskanie, Oregon, the narrator for this tour, immediately lets the survivors know how grateful the Navy is for their service and sacrifice. Sears has voluntarily narrated this tour dozens of times in the past, but this one holds special meaning.

“I do this because, to me, history will be repeated if it’s not known. The time we spend with these survivors and learn about the things they had to endure in their time of service is the only way that we’ll ever honor their sacrifice and prevent this kind of attack from ever happening again.”

At the Arizona Memorial, the survivors and their families return to the resting place of the 1,177 Sailors who lost their lives during the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu. Some weep openly, while others pray silently to their fallen friends. Others embrace and share memories of how much the area has changed since they were stationed here, all those years ago.

One survivor stands before the wall of names, at the end of the memorial, and points out the names of men he may have known during his time of service. Nearly 75 years after a day that would help define their entire lives, these men came back to pay their respects to those who never lived past that day.

As evening colors are rendered and the sun dips under the Pacific horizon, the white boat eases off the dock of the memorial and heads back to land. Survivors and active duty Sailors sit next to one another and share some of their adventures. Some look back at the memorial and wave to their fallen shipmates.

It isn’t goodbye. It’s a salute to their timeless sacrifice.



HO'OKELE  
FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

Fleet and Family Readiness  
marketing photos

# Life & Leisure

## Tower lights up Joint Base



### Reid Tokeshi

*Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam  
Morale, Welfare and Recreation*

The 47th annual holiday lighting of the Freedom Tower, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, was held Dec. 2. JBPHH Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) presented this free event.

The festivities began with a variety of treats and activities for kids. A hot chocolate tent served up the winter beverage favorite along with holiday touches such as candy canes and other fixings, and free cookies were passed out to all. Bounce houses provided an outlet for the young ones to burn off some energy from their sweet treats.

Two craft tents offered children and adults the opportunity to build models and create holiday artwork.

On the lawn in front of the tower, the Marine Corps Forces Pacific Band provided musical entertainment. Several fundraising organizations were also on hand selling various food and drink items.

Santa arrived via fire truck and stuck around to pose for hundreds of free photos with the many families who awaited his arrival.

At 7 p.m., the Freedom Tower was lit in festive colors, providing a fitting climax to the evening.



Members of the NIOC Anchors 2016 JBPHH intramural flag football champions show off their hardware after winning the title.



# NIOC Anchors

Story and photos  
by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor, Ho'okele

After an arduous season that started off back in September, the 2016 intramural flag football finished with a bang, when the Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii Anchors squared off against Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) on Dec. 5 for the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam championship at Earhart Field.

Both teams earned the right to meet each other after surviving three rounds in the playoffs, which started off on Dec. 3 with a total of 16 teams.

In a tough showdown that saw both defenses step up and challenge for every inch of Earhart Field, the Anchors offense mustered just enough firepower to generate two touchdowns and win by a score of 12-6 to clinch their first JBPHH flag football title.

"It was a lot of hard work," said Anchors captain Petty Officer 2nd Class John Posey following the hard-fought victory. "It feels absolutely amazing. I commend these guys because they put it all together. It's a nice deep sigh of relief to finally make it."

Against DPAA, the NIOC defense immediately made itself



Quarterback Petty Officer 2nd Class Jermaine Carmenia looks downfield to throw a pass, while trying to avoid a pass rush. Carmenia led two scoring drives to lead NIOC Anchors to the championship.

known by forcing DPAA to punt the ball away on their first two possessions.

The Anchors almost came away with a touchdown in their first drive of the game, but on first and goal-to-goal at the DPAA one-yard line, quarterback Petty Officer 2nd Class Jermaine Carmenia fired a bullet to Posey, who ran a perfect slant route to free himself in the end zone.

The pass might have had just a

little too much mustard on it, as the ball skipped out of the hands of Posey and into the arms of DPAA defensive back Spc. Quinell Adams for an interception.

The drive was the only significant penetration by both teams until very late in the first half.

With about two minutes to play in the first half, NIOC got the ball on their own 38 and proceeded to punch in a touchdown with less than a minute on the clock.

During the drive, Carmenia was spot on with his passes by going three-for-four with the last toss covering 10 yards on a scoring pass to Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis Daniels and a 6-0 lead going into halftime.

"It was more than necessary," Posey said about the touchdown. "If we wasted the whole first half and didn't get on the scoreboard, then it was a wasted opportunity."

In the second half, it appears

as if momentum was still on the side of the Anchors, who took the first drive after intermission and drove all the way down to the DPAA 10-yard line.

However, the DPAA defense stiffened and prevented the Anchors from reaching the end zone.

On the Anchors next series, DPAA wasn't as fortunate, as Carmenia used a short game to drive 61 yards on nine plays for the team's next and final score.

Facing a third down and goal from the DPAA three-yard line, Carmenia pitched the ball on a option to Petty Officer 2nd Class Quan Roberts, who then lobbed a throw to a wide open Petty Officer 2nd Class DSean Handy for a touchdown and 12-0 lead with 2:05 remaining on the clock.

DPAA, with Sgt. Adrian Peay at QB, did manage to get on the scoreboard on a nine-yard run by Peay, but the score came too late as the Anchors hung on for the win.

"Their (Anchors) speed killed us," Peay said about his team's heartbreaking defeat. "I ain't taking nothing away from their defense. In fact, their whole team is awesome. I've been chasing this trophy for eight years and I just can't get over that edge, but it was fun."

Posey said that, at this point, it appears as though the team will only lose around three players from this year's team.

If the players return with the same hunger, then he doesn't see why the Anchors can't go for a repeat.

"That's the goal," he said. "But at the end of the day, it doesn't matter who we have out here. If we don't play as a team, it's not going to work out."

## Navy master chief surprises in bodybuilding debut

Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor, Ho'okele

If you're past 40 and thinking that your prime years are gone, take a lesson from Master Chief Melanie Williams, Defense Information Systems Agency Pacific (DISA-PAC), whose age-defying showing at the recent Paradise Cup bodybuilding show may make you think twice about age.

Williams, who signed up with the Navy back in 1989, strongly believes in challenging herself, and at the age of 45, the self-described goal setter embarked on an endeavor that very few people are willing to attempt.

With only seven months to get stage ready at the Paradise Cup, Williams sought out the help of personal trainer and professional competitor Otto Montgomery, a Navy veteran, and the rest is history.

Williams not only got herself ready for the big show, she smashed almost all barriers by completing the event with an astounding second-place finish in the age 35-and-above, Masters figure division.

"Every year I do personal milestone goals," Williams said. "At first it was let's run a marathon, but then my dad reminded me what I did to my knees when I did a triathlon. Then when you run around

with a bunch of bodybuilders, they were like, 'why don't you get on the stage Melanie?' And I said 'yep, I'm going to be a bodybuilder.'"

Williams said that while she has always trained with weights, immersing herself into the sport was a totally different experience.

Getting used to an unfamiliar style of working out was one thing, but then came the dieting, which she admitted took awhile to get used to.

"It was incredibly eye opening because before I used to work out just so I could eat whatever I wanted to," she said. "Sticking to the regimented six meals a day was hard because I'm the kind of person that when the sun goes down, I go down, but there was always two more meals that I had to eat before I went to sleep. And I missed Skittles terribly."

Still, even with the rough start, Montgomery said that Williams was so disciplined it didn't take long before he could see a noticeable transformation.

"It took only a matter of three weeks," her coach said. "She put the effort in. All I had to do was give her the plan and then it's all up to the client about the time they put into it."

While Montgomery said that Williams is his first master's athlete he has ever trained, ev-



Photo courtesy of Melanie Williams

Master Chief Melanie Williams shows the amazing transformation that she accomplished in just a few short months to get stage ready for the recent Paradise Cup bodybuilding show.

everything he had her do, she responded with awesome results.

"I love it," Montgomery said about his experience with his first master's client. "She doesn't train like a 45 year old. Anyone that's highly motivated

and dedicated, I would train any day."

With so much intensity in her training and diet, Williams did admit that she reached a point where she wondered if it was all worth it

However, after some encouragement from her friend Malia Clemons and Montgomery, the moment passed and she persevered to make her bodybuilding debut.

"I was ready," she said. "I've practiced, I've got my routine down, but luckily, most of it was done by prejudging, where the crowd wasn't as large."

The experience, Williams said, has made her hungry for more and she is already targeting her next appearance on stage, which will be at a national event set for next year in August.

"If I get first or second in my class, I earn a pro card," she said. "I hope to come back with one."

For anyone hoping to follow in the footsteps of Williams, she said that they should be prepared to dig deep, but the experience will be rewarding.

"You need mental toughness, discipline and you have to make it a priority," she said. "If it's not a priority, you're not going to do well."

Montgomery agreed with Williams and added that if you are sitting on the fence thinking about doing it, just get up and get going.

"If you see something that you want to do, try it," he said. "It isn't going to hurt you to try it. If you never had the chance to do it, but now you have the opportunity to, just do it."



# Basketball Invitational honors Pearl Harbor veterans, Dec. 6-7

**Petty Officer 2nd Class Tracey S. Bannister**  
*Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element Detachment Hawaii*

**Randy Dela Cruz**  
*Sports editor, Ho'okele*

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band welcomed a lively crowd of active duty military and visitors with spirited music at the historic Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to open the FOX Sports 1 Pearl Harbor Invitational basketball tournament spanning Dec. 6-7. In the first year Bloch Arena opened, the arena hosted “The Battle of Music 1941,” with musicians competing in the semi-finals on Dec. 6, 1941. The finals were to be held on Dec. 20, but the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu cancelled everything.

Today, 75 years later, Petty Officer 3rd Class Brent Mitchell, assigned to U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, fills the space with his rendition of the national anthem, kicking off the invitational.

Pearl Harbor is Mitchell’s first duty station and 2016 his first year in the Navy. Mitchell described the experience to perform at Bloch Arena 75 years after the attack.

“The whole band was stationed here in Hawaii, on the USS Arizona. They were all killed when the Arizona was attacked,” Mitchell said. “To be able to represent them and represent the Navy as a whole, it’s a very humbling experience.”

The tournament included Princeton and Seton Hall Universities and Universities of California and Hawaii. As the first game came to an end, University of California gained the lead against Princeton University and pulled away with a final score of 62-51.

Jabari Bird, a senior player from the University of California, spoke about the toughness his team displayed in order to come back at the end for the win.

“We have this mantra, together we attack,” Bird said. “We have to be one cohesive group to go out there and complete the mission on the court and it’s the same with the military.”

During his reflection, Mitchell drew a parallel from the camaraderie seen in the basketball tournament to the cohesion found in military service.

“They’re a team just like the Navy is a team,” Mitchell said. “They work together for a common goal, to win the game. The Navy works together for a common goal to keep our country safe. The band works together for a common goal to promote the Navy, work with the community.”

Gen. Robert B. Brown, commanding general of U.S. Army Pacific, was also in attendance for the first day of games. He recognized the World War II veterans who were in the crowd.

“We are grateful for those Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans that fill a living legacy that all make our nation so great and for you Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, you’re a part of their legacy,” Brown said. “Together, we stand on the shoulders of the greatest generation. Let’s not forget those who came before us, and the hard work and sacrifice they made on behalf of all of us.”

Princeton came out on top at the end of day two against Hawaii, 75-62, Dec. 7, to win the Fox Sports Pearl Harbor Invitational.

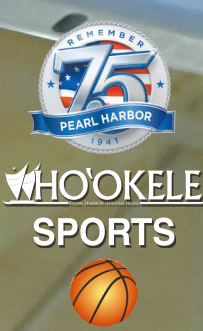
“I feel it’s an extreme honor to play during the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor for such a historic event,” Bird said.

The invitational concluded Dec. 7, with Seton Hall emerging victorious over California to take the tournament. Seton Hall captured the invitational with wins over Hawaii and the California Golden Bears.

Hawaii didn’t play as well as they had hoped, losing their final game to Princeton. However, Hawaii head coach Eran Ganot said that while it’s back to the drawing board, the experience of playing at Pearl Harbor on the 75th anniversary of the attack was awe-inspiring.

“I can’t thank the people here enough,” Ganot said. “The competition great, the exposure to our program great. People, nationally, know about that ‘H’ and we’re really proud to represent it. But more than anything, we just played a basketball game on the 75th anniversary of the exact day, on the base that withstood those attacks. These guys are never going to forget that. Obviously we’ve got some things to work on, but I’m really proud of our program and I’m pleased to have our guys be here.”

Dec. 7, 2016, marks the 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Oahu. The invitational is part of a series of remembrance events throughout the week to honor the courage and sacrifices of those who served during Dec. 7, 1941, and throughout the Pacific Theater.



Above, Desi Rodriguez drives past Kingsley Okoroh. Below, Noah Allen powers up between two defenders.



Above, U.S. Army Soldiers watch Princeton University battle University of California during the FOX Sports Pearl Harbor Invitational basketball game held Dec. 6 at Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Right, World War II veteran Peter Dupre plays the national anthem on a harmonica during the FOX Sports 1 Pearl Harbor Invitational, Dec. 7.





## Pictures with Aloha Santa available Saturday

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

- Free pictures with Aloha Santa will be offered from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday at Pool 2. Aloha Santa will be available for picture-taking in front of the fountain of the baby pool at Pool 2. One photograph per child is allowed. The shallow end of the pool will be open for families, and there will be goodie bags for all. Donation of new, unwrapped toys to the Toys for Tots deposit box are welcome. The Toys for Tots mission is to collect toys each year and distribute them as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. For more information, call 260-9736.
- Lunch and bowl with Santa will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 11 at the bowling center on the Hickam side of Joint Base for ages 12 years and younger. The cost is \$8 per child. Patrons can get one game of bowling plus shoe rental and a lunch that includes a hot dog, chips and drink. The event is limited to the first 30 authorized patrons. Patrons can call Santa's helper to sign up. For more information, call 473-2651.
- Free sneak preview of "Collateral Beauty" will begin at 4 p.m. Dec. 11 at Sharkey Theater. The ticket booth will open at 2:30 p.m. This is free to the first 400 authorized patrons. Active-duty may receive up to four tickets. Retired military, military family members and Department of Defense cardholders may receive up to two tickets. The movie is rated PG-13. For more information, call 473-0726.
- Moonlight paddle at Hickam Harbor will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the MWR Outdoor Recreation-Hickam Harbor. The trip includes all required gear. Participants can bring water and dry clothes to change into after the activity. Participants of all paddling abilities welcome. The cost is \$25, and the sign up deadline is Dec. 10. For more information, call 449-5215.
- Free ladies golf clinic will begin at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 14 at the Barbers Point Golf Course. The pros will offer tips for female golfers. For more information, call 682-1911.
- Free holiday block party at Wahiawa Annex will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 16 at the sports field. There will be free barbecue, games, activities and prize giveaways. For more information, call 473-2582.
- Free Ugly Sweater 5K Run will begin at 7 a.m. Dec. 17 at the Hickam Fitness Center. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. Prizes will be awarded to the winner in the following categories: men's, women's, youth boys and girls (ages 17 and under), men's and women's stroller. For more information, call 448-2214.
- Hike Kealia/swim at Mokuleia will begin at 8 a.m. Dec. 17 at the MWR Outdoor Adventure Center-Fleet Store. The Kealia trail begins on the mauka (mountain) side of Dillingham Air Field. The trail leads up the mountain, which has 19 switchbacks, to the picnic table area where participants can stop and hang out to enjoy the view of the North Shore coastline. The cost is \$20, and the sign up deadline is Dec. 15. For more information, call 473-1198.



# Historic Vestal bell helps commemorate Pearl Harbor attack anniversary

**Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Lockwood**

*Naval History and Heritage Command, Communication and Outreach Division*

The Director of Navy Staff hosted the Pentagon's 75th anniversary commemoration ceremony of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 6. Helping to connect the ceremony's attendees to the day of infamy 75 years ago was a display featuring the bell, on loan from the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC), from USS Vestal (Collier No. 1) — a former repair ship moored adjacent to battleship USS Arizona (BB 39) when the Imperial Japanese attacked. Vestal's bell recently re-entered NHHC's collection, but not in the best of shape. It needed some conservatory treatment before it could go on display. "Tenacious accretions had accumulated on the bell's exterior, along with dust, dirt, and environmental pollution," said David Krop, conservation branch head at NHHC's Collection Management Facility in Richmond, Virginia. "Additionally, we detected lead paint on the bell's clapper assembly and old polish residue clinging to the bell's lettering."

Using a variety of mechanical and chemical methods, Krop's team was able to get the bell to a stable and presentable condition after about two weeks, in time for the ceremony. "As we cleaned and conserved the bell," said Karl Knauer, a conservator on Krop's team, "its past reflected back to us through its marred surface. It was truly an honor to work on such an important touchstone to the Navy's history." Vestal's is one of thousands of bells in NHHC's collection, which are a tiny subset of the hundreds of thousands of artifacts in the collection. The holdings range from weapons, uniforms, flags, aircraft, ordnance, ship models, and almost any other type of artifact you could imagine having a Navy tie, even ties. "The USS Vestal bell, like every other artifact in the headquarters artifact collection, has a unique story," said Jeff Bowdoin, deputy branch head for NHHC Curator Branch, "this one deeply embedded in one of the most significant events in American history. It's our job to maintain these artifacts so future generations of Sailors can learn from, honor, and respect the history of the Navy." Vestal's story is compelling. Once the attack started, Vestal's

crew managed to man the guns almost immediately, everything from five-inch broadside battery to the .30-caliber Lewis machine guns. As the attack bore on, two bombs hit either side of Vestal before it managed to get underway in order to evade the attack. The port side was burst open, and the second bomb passed through a couple of different parts of the ship before leaving a five-foot hole in the bottom. Now, in addition to fighting the Japanese, it was fighting for its very life — but fight it did. Eventually, it managed to get underway and anchored off McGrew Point, but a creeping list and rising draft caused the captain to ground the ship. Although damaged, Vestal participated in some of the post-attack salvage operations, sending repair parties to the overturned hull of battleship USS Oklahoma (BB 37) so welders could cut into the ship and rescue men trapped when she capsized after being struck by Japanese torpedoes. Vestal was ultimately decommissioned at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, Aug. 14, 1946. For more news from Naval History and Heritage Command, visit [www.navy.mil/local/navhist/](http://www.navy.mil/local/navhist/).



MWR marketing photo

Honolulu City Lights tours are available throughout the month of December from Joint Base MWR.

## City Lights tours available through MWR

**Justin Hirai**

*Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation*

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT) department is offering Honolulu City Lights tours throughout the month of December. The tours take patrons on a festive ride to see the holiday displays at Honolulu

Hale. Tickets can be purchased through any ITT office. Departures from the Hickam ITT are available now through December 23. There are two departure times available, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The cost for the 6 p.m. departure is \$15 per person and the 8:30 p.m. departure is \$10 per person. Pearl Harbor departures will leave from the Bloch Arena parking lot and are available on December 10 and 19-23. They also

have two departure times, 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Both are \$15 per person. All tours offer free rides for children 4 and under, but they must be in an adult's lap and free rides are limited to one child per paying adult. More information can be found at [www.greatlifeohawaii.com](http://www.greatlifeohawaii.com). Private charters are also available for those with large groups. To check availability and booking call 448-2295.

# Naval War College seeks papers on women, peace, security

**Daniel S. Marciniak**

*U.S. Naval War College Public Affairs*

U.S. Naval War College (NWC) is issuing a "call for papers" in preparation of its fifth annual Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Conference to be held August 2017, at the college. In an effort to gather theoretical and practical ideas from a wider audience not normally represented in a limited conference format, the conference series chair is soliciting papers from academics, researchers, military personnel, non-governmental organizations, and individuals who have an interest or experience in issues pertaining to WPS. "Conferences have limited room for participants," said Mary Raum, NWC professor and chair of the WPS Conference series. "To have available, online and in the networked world, some quality thoughts on components of WPS from thinkers and practitioners who have a direct tie to the subjects being discussed is an invaluable resource." "This call for papers will allow for a broader reach in exchanging ideas and enable us to network on a global scale — a first step for formalizing the sharing of ideas allied with conference precepts," Raum said. Since the inception of the U.S. National Action Plan on WPS in

2011, NWC has been at the forefront of exploration into national and international issues involving WPS, working toward the goal of empowering women in conflict prevention and peace. According to Raum, the conference continues to grow in perspective and scope to ensure the participation and inclusion of ideas from sister services and international partners across the globe. "Any person tasked with protecting the national interest must be aware of the linkages between the security of women and the security of states," Raum said. "They should also be aware of the broad-level interconnections of the role of WPS with military, economic, and social freedoms around the globe." In support of the conference theme, "The Next Decade: Amplifying the Women, Peace and Security Agenda," those with an interest or experience in WPS issues are encouraged to submit a paper on one of the following subjects:

- Department of Defense programs and issues (with particular interest in the Pacific hemisphere, peace and support operations, security force training, education, and international joint programs).
- Female populations and international piracy.
- Cyber violence, internet recruiting and links to female terrorism.
- Sexual violence and human

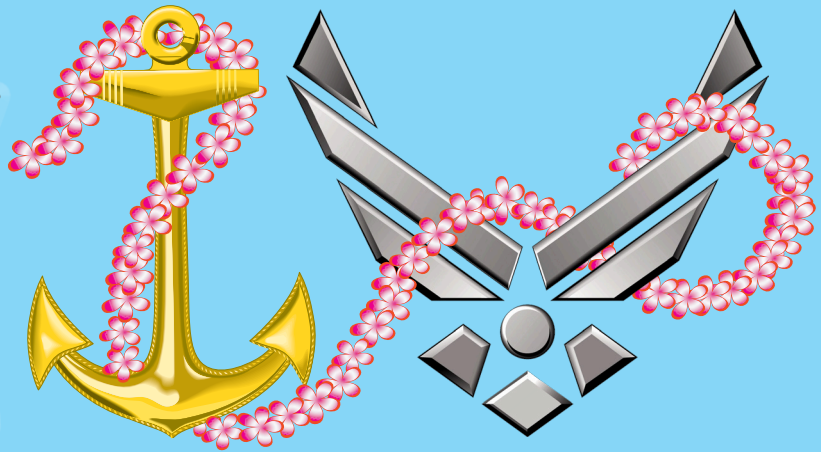
trafficking.

- Gender and policy (to include discussions on the post-election dynamics of the next four years).
- Humanitarian aid and disaster relief.
- Academic programs in the field of WPS.
- International security (with particular emphasis on Russia, China and inclusive security inequalities).

"Being a contributor to this call for papers will allow for an additional avenue of exchange between theorists and practitioners in academia, military, and non-governmental organizations," Raum said. "These ideas are important for better operationalizing WPS components in the most meaningful way possible." Proposals must be submitted by June 1, 2017. Papers should be in the English language only and saved as a Word document. The maximum word count is 3,000 words, double-spaced with a 12-pitch font. Submissions should be emailed to [mary.raum@usnwc.edu](mailto:mary.raum@usnwc.edu) with the subject line heading, "WPS Call for Papers: Last Name." Selected papers will be published and accessible via the NWC website at <http://www.usnwc.edu>. For more news from Naval War College, visit [www.navy.mil/local/nwc/](http://www.navy.mil/local/nwc/).



DECEMBER

HO'OKELE  
PEARL HARBOR - HICKAMCOMMUNITY  
CALENDAR**PACIFIC FLEET BAND PERFORMANCE**

**TODAY** — The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, stationed at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, will perform a free public concert at 7 p.m. at the Hale Koa Hotel luau garden in Waikiki. Under the direction of Lt. Kelly L. Cartwright, fleet bandmaster, they will provide music from a variety of genres, including the world premiere of a newly commissioned work by Brett Abigana, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. FMI: 474-3693.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA DEC. 10** —

The annual Breakfast with Santa will be held from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange food court lanai. The event will include glitter tattoos, balloon art, holiday card-making for the family and prizes. In addition, the event will include holiday arts and crafts, a pancake and bacon breakfast, goodie bags and a framed photo with Santa. The cost of the event is \$12 for children and \$8 for adults. It is open to authorized patrons only. FMI: 423-3287.

**WE BELIEVE NEX HOLIDAY EVENT**

**DEC. 10** — A free "We Believe" family holiday event sponsored by the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) and Armed Services YMCA will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the NEX mall Welcome Aboard wall. The event will include ornament-making, holiday card-making, photo booth sessions, photo frame coloring, prizes and giveaways. No purchase is necessary. All authorized patrons are welcome to attend. FMI: 423-3287.

**TIME MANAGEMENT DEC. 12** — A class on time management will be held from 8 to 10 a.m. at Military and Family Support Center Pearl Harbor. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**CIVILIAN RESUME WRITING DEC. 13** — A class on civilian resume writing will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. at Military and Family Support Center Wahiawa. Registration is highly encouraged. It is also helpful to bring along your own laptop, a draft resume and a civilian job announcement you may be interested in. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**FEDERAL RESUME WRITING DEC. 13** —

A class on federal resume writing and navigating USA Jobs will be held from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at Military and Family Support Center Wahiawa. Registration is highly encouraged. It is also helpful to bring along your own laptop and a federal job announcement from USA Jobs you may be interested in pursuing. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**STRESS MANAGEMENT DEC. 13** — A class on stress management will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. at Military and Family Support Center Pearl Harbor. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**MILLION DOLLAR SAILOR/AIRMAN**

**DEC. 13-14** — A two-day Million Dollar Sailor/Airman class will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day at Military and Family Support Center Pearl Harbor. The class is designed for junior Navy and Air Force personnel to learn about proper budgeting techniques, credit management, savings and investment and other financial topics. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**CFS FORUM DEC. 14** — A command financial specialist (CFS) forum will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Military and Family Support Center Pearl Harbor. Guest speakers will provide up-to-date information on financial issues and trends. Command master chiefs and career counselors are encouraged to attend. FMI: [www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com/family-support/mfsc-class-schedule) or call 474-1999.

**AIR FORCE SPOUSE 101 DEC. 15** —

Air Force Spouse 101: Heart Link spouses orientation will be held from 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 15 at Military and Family Support Center Hickam. The program is designed as a fun and informative seminar to increase awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions and available on- and off-base resources and services. Lunch will be provided in the Hale Aina Dining Facility. Note that shoulders must be covered in this facility. Those interested need to RSVP by Dec. 12 at [mfscchawaii@navy.mil](mailto:mfscchawaii@navy.mil).

**JBPHH COOKIE CAPER DEC. 15** —

The annual Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Cookie Caper is a cookie drive that will provide homemade cookies to single service members who live in the barracks or off base, and who are deployed. On Dec. 15, about 1,200 dozen cookies will be collected, bagged, and distributed, so help is being sought. Organizers of the event are requesting many people to bake several dozen cookies. They also need volunteers to help collect and bag cookies. This year's cookie drive will be at the Makai Recreation Center, 1859 McChord St., JBPHH. Cookies can also be dropped off the night before from 6 to 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Makai Recreation Center. FMI: <http://signup.com/go/pfMhH3> or email [Cookiecaperhickam@gmail.com](mailto:Cookiecaperhickam@gmail.com)

MOVIE  
SHOWTIMES**COLLATERAL BEAUTY****FREE SNEAK PREVIEW AT SHARKEY THEATER**

When a successful New York advertising executive suffers a great tragedy he retreats from life. While his concerned friends try desperately to reconnect with him, he seeks answers from the universe by writing letters to Love, Time and Death. But it's not until his notes bring unexpected personal responses that he begins to understand how these constants interlock in a life fully lived, and how even the deepest loss can reveal moments of meaning and beauty.

Sharkey Theater presents a sneak preview of Collateral Beauty Sunday Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. Pre-assigned seating tickets will be distributed at the ticket box office at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are free to the first 400 authorized patrons. Active duty Military ID card holders will be able to receive four tickets, Retirees, military family members and DoD ID card holders may receive two tickets.

**SHARKEY THEATER****TODAY — DEC. 9**

7:00 PM Arrival (PG-13)

**SATURDAY — DEC. 10**

2:30 PM Trolls (3-D) (PG)

4:40 PM Almost Christmas (PG-13)

7:00 PM Doctor Strange (PG-13)

**SUNDAY — DEC. 11**

4:00 PM Collateral Beauty

(free sneak preview)(PG-13)

7:00 PM Almost Christmas (PG-13)

**HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER****TODAY — DEC. 9**

7:00 PM Doctor Strange (PG-13)

**SATURDAY — DEC. 10**

3:00 PM Trolls (PG)

6:00 PM Hacksaw Ridge (R)

**SUNDAY — DEC. 11**

3:00 PM Trolls (PG)

**THURSDAY — DEC. 15**

7:00 PM Almost Christmas (PG-13)



# MY FAVORITE PHOTO



Traci B. Feibel of Navy Region Hawaii took this photo last week of a double rainbow spanning over the Battleship Missouri Memorial and USS Arizona Memorial. How to submit: Email photos to [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com)

## Scholarships for Military Children Program to open Dec. 13

**Defense Commissary Agency**

The holiday season is full of the usual landmark dates, including Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day. However, there’s one other date in December which could prove to be almost as important as the traditional celebrations for some military families: Dec. 13 marks the opening of the Scholarships for Military Children Program for the 2017-2018 school year.

Now entering its 17th year, the program was created to recognize the “contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community,” according to the mission statement on the [militaryscholar.org](http://militaryscholar.org) website.

At least one scholarship worth \$2,000 will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received. Additional recipients will be selected based on a prorated basis, so more scholarships will be awarded at those stores with larger numbers of applicants. A total of 700 scholarship grants will be awarded this year.

Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization that helps service members and their families, administers the program. Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship management services organization, manages and awards the scholarships.

“This is always an exciting time of year, when the Fisher House Scholarships for Military Children program kicks off, knowing 700 military children will have the opportunity to receive a \$2000 scholarship to help toward their studies,” said Marye Dobson, the Defense Commissary Agency’s liaison for the scholarship program.

The commissary’s industry partners, including vendors, suppliers and manufacturers, as



DeCA photo

Megan Stith of Chester, Virginia, was selected for a 2016 Scholarship for Military Children.

well as the general public donate money to the program, and every dollar donated goes directly toward funding the scholarships.

To qualify for consideration, applicants must be a dependent, unmarried child, younger than 21 — or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university — of a service member on active duty, a Reserve or Guard member, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty, or survivor of a retiree.

Applications must be hand-delivered or shipped via the U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods to the commissary where the applicant’s family normally shops by close of business Friday, Feb. 12, 2017. Applications cannot be emailed or faxed.

“Every year, we continue to be impressed by the caliber of military children who submit applications. The students who are selected to receive scholarship grants are truly ‘the best of the best,’” said Jim Weiskopf, Fisher House Foundation vice president.

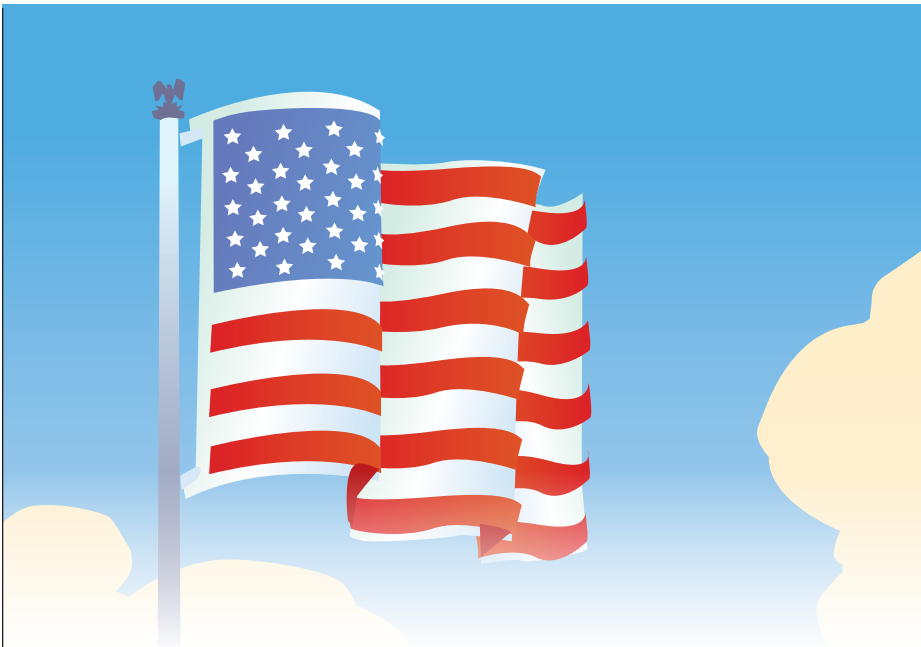
Applicants should ensure that they and their sponsor are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database and have a military ID card. The applicant must attend or plan to attend an accredited college or univer-

sity, full time, in the fall of 2017 or be enrolled in studies designed to transfer to a four-year program.

Students who are awarded a full scholarship or receive an appointment to one of the military academies or affiliated preparatory schools are not eligible to receive funds from this program. A full scholarship is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and other expenses.

In the past 16 years of its existence, the program has awarded more than \$15 million in scholarships to more than 9,000 students.

*For more information, students or sponsors should visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org). You can also call Scholarship Managers at (856) 616-9311 or email them at [militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com](mailto:militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com).*



## Radford student wins arts contest

**Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs**

Morgan Roberts, a 10th grade student at Radford High School, is the winner of the Military Family Appreciation Month Creative Arts Contest.

The contest was sponsored by the Joint Base Military and Family Support Center (MFSC), which joined the military community and surrounding schools in celebrating November as Military Appreciation Month. MFSC cited the unique challenges military families are faced with, from deployments to new assignments. The creative arts contest provided an opportunity to showcase talent and express experience. Winners receive a personal VIP tour as honored guests of the 15th Operations Support Squadron.

The following is Roberts’ winning essay:

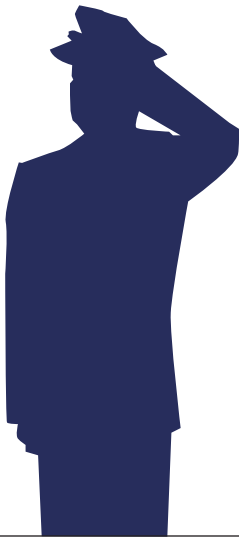
### Our Service Applaud

*My father, a soldier, a family that’s free.  
Badges and ribbons yet still holding hands with me.  
Missed birthdays, Christmases, and football game boos.  
Not just my freedom, he fights for yours too!*

*Sometimes I wish our home could be permanent,  
I am privileged yet somehow unfortunate.  
Every so often we have to leave;  
the decision is to move or my father goes overseas*

*When the time comes to say goodbye,  
it helps to think we’re sleeping underneath the same night sky.  
I know you try your hardest to please both sides.  
To stay safe for your family and fight on the front lines.*

*Without my father I feel alone.  
Precious moments filled with your phone calls home.  
Fight our battles at home and abroad.  
I’m proud of my father our service and so I applaud!*





# Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights to be on display Dec. 8-25

Navy Region Hawaii  
Public Affairs

The annual Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights, featuring spirited and unique ship and submarine lighting schemes will be on display from Dec. 8 to 25. There will be harbor boat tours and a competition between ships and submarines.

Free Holiday Festival of Lights evening harbor boat tours for military and Department of Defense cardholders (approximately 15-20 minute long tours aboard Arizona Memorial white boats) will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 12, 13 and 14 departing from Merry Point Landing.

Free Festival of Lights tours will be available to the public from 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 15 and 16 departing from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

Seats are limited and tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the tour at the visitor center.

Additional information will be posted on the official Navy Region Hawaii and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Facebook websites.

No backpacks, fanny packs, luggage, diaper bags, camera bags, purses, large cameras/tripods or other items which provide concealment are allowed in the visitor center or aboard the boats.

Do not leave your valuables in your car. Please note that cameras are allowed aboard for photos of the decorated ships. However, photographing

security activities such as the patrol boats and shore or water security personnel is prohibited. A light jacket or sweater is recommended.

The annual ship/submarine holiday lighting competition will be judged the evening of Dec. 19 through a barge tour of the harbor.

Top three and honorable mention awards will be selected for both ships and submarines. A special Admiral's Choice award will be presented to one ship or submarine as the overall winner.

All ships and submarines are encouraged to show their festive spirit and provide the best holiday lighting they can muster.

Awards have been provided by the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) team. First place will receive a command picnic. Second place will receive a fleet bash on the pier. Third place will receive an outdoor adventure for 20 people. Honorable mention will receive a free pavilion rental. Admiral's Choice will receive a \$200 MWR gift certificate.

Participating ships and submarines should provide their command name/hull number, commanding officer and unclassified contact email to Lt. Cmdr. Michael Moran by email at Michael.g.moran@navy.mil or call 473-2202 no later than Dec. 11 for entry into the competition.

For energy efficiency, holiday lights aboard ships and submarines should be turned off at 9 p.m.

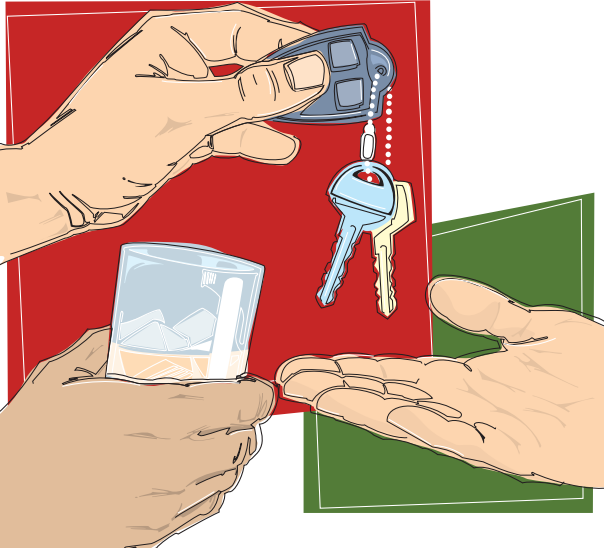
# Avoid impaired driving

Naval Health  
Clinic Hawaii Health  
Promotion

In the United States, approximately 28 people die per day in crashes that involve alcohol-impaired drivers.

Even at levels below the legal limit, alcohol can seriously impair judgment and coordination as well as slow reaction time. Drugged driving is also becoming a serious issue because drugs, even when prescribed by a medical provider, can have similar negative effects to alcohol such as impaired judgment, perception and motor skills. Approximately 16 percent of motor vehicle crashes involve drugs other than alcohol.

December brings with it many opportunities for Sailors and Marines to engage in alcohol use and celebration. It only takes one bad decision to hurt



yourself, your family and your career. Don't waste your holiday season in jail or worse.

Keep what you've earned and consider your options. Get a ride from a designated driver or sober friend. Use the confidential and free Drunk Driving Prevention Program which is available Friday

and Saturday nights from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. (you must register to use the program/or volunteer to drive at [www.ddpp.us/sign-up.html](http://www.ddpp.us/sign-up.html)) Call a cab. Use the Arrive Alive program taxi if your command has this program.

For more information, call NHCH Health Promotion at 471-2280.

## Upcoming blood drives

- Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Aloha Conference Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
  - Dec. 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., oceanside lobby entrance, Tripler Army Medical Center
  - Dec. 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Makalapa Clinic, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
- For more information, call 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email [michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil](mailto:michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil).

Got a sports event you want featured in the Ho'okele?  
PHONE: (808) 473-2888 E-MAIL: [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com)