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USS Arizona survivors piped aboard, welcomed back

Story and photo by Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Hoʻokele

Four Sailors who were serving on the USS Arizona and survived the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor paid a visit on Dec. 2 to the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. Upon arrival, all four—John Anderson, Louis Conter, Donald Stratton, and Lauren Bruner—were piped aboard and saluted by an honor cordon of volunteers from several branches of the armed services while the Pacific Fleet Band played patriotic music.

Lt. Cmdr. Alex Torres, assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, was the lead volunteer coordinator for the ceremony. It was his second time serving in this capacity.

"I was in charge last year and was asked to do it again this year," he said. "I feel very privileged."

Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW/EXW) Leszek Romero, also assigned to JBPHH, was the one to actually pipe the Arizona survivors aboard.

honor," he said. "These men are definitely part of one of the greatest generations."

Honduras who joined the



(Right) Lauren F. Bruner, right, survivor of USS Arizona (BB 39), answers questions during a press conference Dec. 2. John D. Anderson, Louis A. Conter and Donald G. Stratton, survivors of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, were also in attendance as part of the USS Arizona Reunion Association's annual meeting.

ones being honored for inspiring him to enlist.

After the ceremony "This is an amazing marking their arrival, the four veterans participated in a press conference where they spoke of their experi-Romero, a native of ences and answered questions from the audience. U.S. Navy on Sept. 11, Many people were im- Arizona Reunion Associa-2001, credits men like the pressed that four men in tion will hold an official re-

their 90s could make such long, exhausting trips, to which Stratton simply replied, "Everybody has to be someplace.'

This year marks the 73rd anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It is also the final year the USS

union. On Sunday, Dec. 7, the survivors will mark the occasion by holding a cere-

pour a "final toast" to their reunion, official or not. shipmates.

mony on the USS Arizona vivors were confident that "We still have some time to Memorial where they will this would not be their final

"I don't think this will be However, the four sur- our last one," said Conter.



U.S. Navy Photo

Pearl Harbor survivors talk with local schoolchildren who attended the National Park Service and U.S. Navy-hosted joint memorial ceremony at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument Dec. 7, 2013.

Pearl Harbor Day commemoration to preserve memory of attack

National Park Service

The theme of this year's historic commemoration, "Preserving the Memory," focuses on how to keep the story of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Oahu and World War II alive for the nation and the world.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Navy will host a joint memorial ceremony on Sunday from 7:45 to 9:30 a.m. commemorating the 73rd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The ceremony will take place on the main lawn of the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, looking directly out to the USS Arizona Memorial, at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public are expected to join current and former military personnel, including Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans, for the annual observance of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

This year's Dec. 7 ceremony will be co-hosted by Paul DePrey, superintendent, WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument. National Park Service, and Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. The keynote speaker will be Gen. Lori J. Robinson, commander of Pacific Air

Highlights of the ceremony will include music by the Navy's U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, morning colors, a Hawaiian blessing, a cannon salute by members of the U.S. Army, wreath presentations, echo Taps, and recognition of the men and women who survived the attack and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country on Dec. 7,

At 7:55 a.m., the exact moment the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor began 73 years ago, a moment of silence will be observed. A U.S. Navy ship will render

and all Pearl Harbor survivors, and a flyover will be conducted above Pearl Har-

The ceremony will conclude with a "Walk of Honor" by Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans through an honor cordon of military service members and National Park Service men and women.

In conjunction with this year's theme and to connect Pearl Harbor survivors across the U.S. with the commemoration ceremony taking place at Pearl Harbor, the National Park Service is hosting a broadcast via live webcast of this year's event. Prior to the start of the ceremony, Pearl Harbor survivors and WWII veterans will be interviewed and viewers will get a "behind the scenes" look at the ceremony. Those who are unable to attend the ceremony in person will be able to watch the event in their home-

honors to the USS Arizona See DEC. 7, A-4

USS O'Kane to return from deployment

Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77) will return to its homeport at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam today from a nine-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf and western Pacific Ocean.

The ship and crew of nearly 280 Sailors, assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 31, conducted goodwill activities with partner nations along with various presence operations with two carrier strike groups during the ship's deployment.

"I am extremely proud of O'Kane's crew. Through their hard work and dedication, we were able to successfully complete mission tasking on deployment," said Cmdr. Gina McCaine, O'Kane's commanding officer.

During a change of command ceremony at sea Nov. 19, McCaine relieved Cmdr. James Juster as commanding officer of O'Kane.

'O'Kane's crew members have been tremendous ambassadors of the Navy and

raderie have been impressive," Juster said.

While deployed in the U.S. 5th and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of responsibility (AORs,) The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile O'Kane Sailors participated in community relations projects in Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, India and Guam by tutoring special needs children, assisting with general community clean up, participating in sporting events and other activities.

Also during the deployment, the ship's visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) team safely conducted 47 maritime interdiction operations while in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR.

O'Kane is named for Rear Adm. Richard O'Kane a submarine commander in World War II who received the Medal of Honor for his service aboard USS Tang (SS-306). O'Kane directly participated in more successful attacks on shipping than any other submarine officer during the war. The ship's

motto is "A Tradition of Honor." The ship is part of Naval Surface Group

Middle Pacific and U.S. 3rd Fleet. For more information, visit the ship's website http://www.public.navy.mil/surfor/ddg77/



U.S. Navy file photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

The guided-missile destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77) departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam March 7 for a deployment to the western Pacific Ocean and Arabian Gulf. The ship returns to its homeport today.



JBPHH hosts first COMPACAF visit to emphasize communication See page A-2



Japan's Nagaoka city builds strong relationship with Pearl Harbor See page A-2



USS Chafee holds change of command at joint base See page A-7



Battle continues against coconut rhinoceros beetle See page A-8



'Going airborne' See page B-1



Annual Festival of Lights at Pearl Harbor to begin Dec. 8 See page B-3

JBPHH hosts first COMPACAF visit to emphasize communication

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Gen. Lori Robinson, Pacific Air Forces commander, made her inaugural base visit Nov. 25 to Joint Base Pearl Harbor (JBPHH) to learn more about the 15th Wing's mission and Airmen.

Robinson conducted her initial base tour to gain a better understanding of unit readiness and base capabilities and services while interacting with Airmen face-to-face.

"It's about dialogue, communication and understanding where we are and where we're going," she told a crowd of Airmen during an all-call. "Your success is the command's success, and my job is to do what I can to help with that suc-

Robinson also stressed the importance of continued communication and feedback up and down the chain of command.

"In times of uncertainty and con-



Gen. Lori Robinson, Pacific Air Forces commander, shakes hands with Senior Airman Cory Prater, 647th Security Forces Squadron, during her visit Nov. 25 to the squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

cern, you can expect me to be a commanders and chiefs so they can communicator," she said. "It's so communicate with Airmen and important to communicate with their families. This ensures we un-

derstand what's happening in the on the bigger picture. field and allows us to grow the institution and make it better.

In addition to the all-call, Robinson met with Airmen from the active duty and guard flying squadrons, the 647th Air Base where she got a first-hand look at day-to-day operations and the Airmen who accomplish them.

"I'm so impressed with the young Airmen that gave briefings and talked to us today," she said. "I'm incredibly proud of some of the suc-

Robinson encouraged Airmen to keep up the good work while continuing to be open-minded and think outside the box in the way they do business.

We are Airmen. We go over things, not through things," she said. "We get it done through innovation. I saw that all day today; it was huge.

The general also emphasized the importance of teamwork while encouraging Airmen to stay focused

"I have walked away today with an incredible sense of the team effort, and that starts with great leadership," she said. "We're all a part of something bigger than ourselves. It's not about me. It's not Group and the 15th Medical Group about you. It's about the institution and understanding it is a total force effort. You all live that every day."

"It's all about taking care of each other and looking toward the same goal," she said

She also informed Airmen that PACAF will continue to focus on the command's core tenets and lines of operation and assured them that they and their families will remain a top priority.

As Robinson wrapped up her visit to the base, she expressed her pride and gratitude to Airmen and their families.

"Thanks for what you do every day," she said. "Whether you're in the guard, active-duty or you're a civilian, I appreciate what you and your family do every day to get the job done."

Japan's Nagaoka city builds strong relationship with Pearl Harbor

Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

People from all over the United States and the world are coming to Hawaii to participate in the Dec. 7 ceremonies marking the 73rd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

One person making a particularly long journey is Tamio Mori. Mori is the mayor of Nagaoka city in Japan and will be traveling from his home city to attend this Sunday's events. It will be his first time in attendance. He was invited by Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Nagaoka is one of Honolulu's official sister cities and, for many years, Nagaoka has had a productive relationship with both Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. This



Nagaoka Mayor Tamio Mori

relationship dates back to 2007 when a student exchange program between Nagaoka and Honolulu was

"One major part of that exchange involved Japanese students witnessing the Pearl Harbor memorial ceremony as well as building a relationship between Nagaoka's Yamamoto Isoroku museum and the Arizona Memorial Museum," said

"Nagaoka students visit Hawaii each December to



Nagaoka is famous for its fireworks and holds an annual fireworks festival every summer.

learn about the shared war experience and how America honors its military heroes,

Nagaoka is the home of Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto, the architect of the attack on Pearl Harbor that cost 2,403 Americans their lives. On Aug. 1, 1945, Nagaoka was

destroyed by American bombs, killing 1,485 people.

We feel the pains of war just like the people of Honolulu and hope to build mutual understanding as well as appreciation for the pursuit of peace for ourselves and future generations," said

which will also occur this December, is a continuation of this desire and commitment. I will accompany these students to the memorial ceremony along with my wife," he added

The relationship between Nagaoka and Honolulu will no doubt grow even stronger in 2015. Nagaoka will be contributing fireworks to next year's ceremonies at Pearl anniversary of the end of World War II and the restoration of peace between Japan and the United States.

Nagaoka is famous for its unique fireworks, which are manufactured in the city, and is home to an annual fireworks festival held every summer that attracts upvards of 900,000 spectators.

Mori sees his city's participation in the 2015 ceremonies as another way of Mori explained.

"The youth exchange, bringing Japan and the U.S. even closer together.

> "We have enjoyed nearly 70 years of peaceful development and relations, and I wanted to mark this event with a fireworks display at Pearl Harbor, the site of the Japanese attack," he said.

This event on Aug. 15. 2015 will not only remember and honor those who were lost in this tragic episode in history but also symbolize Harbor, marking the 70th our dedication to future peaceful relations between our countries and to work for peace in the world.

"We are grateful to the U.S. Navy, Navy Region Hawaii, the City and County of Honolulu, as well as the National Park Service, Valor in the Pacific National Monument, Pacific Historic Parks, Pacific Aviation Museum, USS Missouri Foundation, and those others who support this planned event,"

COMPACAF extends holiday greetings

Gen. Lori Robinson

Pacific Air Forces Commander

Fellow Airmen,

As we take time to celebrate the holiday season, David and I want to give you a very heartfelt "thank vou" for all you and your families do to deliver mission success for PACAF each and every day.

During these first few weeks in command, I have had an opportunity to visit a few of our bases and talk with our hard working 46,000 PACAF Airmen. Your success has certainly been the command's success. I am overwhelmed by your accomplishments and humbled to be a part of the proud PACAF team.

PACAF Airmen have conducted a wide range of operations in 2014, participating in more than 50 joint and multinational exercises, saving lives and property during humanitarian aid and disaster relief missions, and Integrated Air and Missile Defense Center.

As you spend time with lies



Gen. Lori J. Robinson

family and friends over the holidays, I ask that you remember our military members who are deployed or serving remote tours and separated from their loved ones. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to execute the mission thousands of miles away.

Each and every one of you are vital to accomplishing our mission here in the Pacific. Please take care of establishing the Pacific yourselves, your families and each other. Happy holidays to you and your fami-

Preserving Memory of Pearl Harbor Day, 'Greatest Generation'

Rear Adm. **Rick Williams**

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

This year's Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremony theme is "Preserving the Memory": a commitment to ensure future generations learn and understand the service and sacrifice of the Greatest Generation on Dec. 7, 1941.

It is an honor to welcome back our Pearl Harbor survivors and participate in remembrance ceremonies for them and their fallen comrades. We also welcome back the many family members who are equally dedicated to preserving the memory.

Tom Brokaw named their generation the "Greatest" and for good reason. Those we lost on "the day of infamy" were serving American ideals of freedom, justice and equality for all.

Those who survived the attack 73 years ago had their innocence taken away from them — life's expectations were overturned as new priorities for survival prevailed. Plans were changed and aligned with the march to war. Their lives were transformed forever. And so was



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

the rest of the world.

As we preserve the memory, one thing we must keep, understand and cherish is the sense of brotherhood the bond — felt by our World War II Greatest Generation. You can see that strong sense of kinship today among our Pearl Harbor survivors who helped unite all Americans.

The bond of kinship on the battlefield has been a powerful force in all our conflicts, including both world wars, Korea and Vietnam. Today, it's no different. wounded warriors, return willingly and repeatedly to fight the war against violent

brothers and sisters. And the bond can last a

lifetime. Many of our Pearl Harbor

survivors were teenagers on Dec. 7, 1941. Now, 73 years later, they return to honor their shipmates. This week, Navy Region

Hawaii's Pearl Harbor survivors liaison Jim Taylor four burial services for Sailors who wish to return and remain with their brothers in Pearl Harbor forever.

The bond is strong. It goes beyond friendship. It's like saying, "You are part of my family, and I will die to protect you. Your life is more important than my own."

Perhaps if we understand and fully appreciate that bond we can learn how to apply it universally, collectively. And when we fully comprehend commitment beyond our own self-interest, we can preserve the peace and freedom we enjoy.

This week's series of commemorative ceremonies will help us better appreciate and value the importance of our survivors' contributions.

The Greatest Generation Many veterans, including Pearl Harbor survivors were shipmates, repaired their extremists alongside their four years in combat. While tion.

in combat they buried more shipmates. They provided a common sense of purpose-"Remember Pearl Harbor" that connected all Americans in a new sense of patri-

Most important, their common cause helped transform the world: More freedom and democracy, more will conduct no fewer than prosperity, more civil rights —with greater equality for women, the beginning of less discrimination and more integration.

As Tom Brokaw writes in "The Greatest Generation," most of the veterans of the war were ready to go to work. They didn't ask for a handout from the government, but a grateful nation offered the G.I. Bill that helped them get an education, job skills and an opportunity to excel.

Those who survived never forgot the friends and brothers they lost or the common cause for which they fought.

I encourage you to meet and thank the veterans of World War II who are on the waterfront or out in town this week. And I hope to see you Sunday morning at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center resilient. They buried their as we honor and preserve the memory of these memships and spent the next bers of the Greatest Genera-



The theme of this year's Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Day remembrance ceremony is "Preserving the Memory." How can we preserve the history of what happened on that day of infamy on Dec. 7, 1941 so future generations will never forget it?



MM1 Charles Young Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

"Do something like make a walk-in ship mock-up, something that could show the surprise of the fighter attack. I think that's the hardest thing to show: the surprise and shock of what happened."

Staff Sgt. Gavin Cruz 392nd Intelligence Squadron

"A good or even great way of preserving what happened that day is through stones from brave heroes who served ou country. It's articles like these that remind us of that tragic day. Talk to a veteran. I'm sure he or she would be more than happy to share his or her experience."



FC3 Haily Cooper USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93)

"We could encourage more people to go see the Arizona Memorial. Other than that I think we do everything we can to teach about it."

Maj. Mark Smith Special Operations Command Pacific

"Continue to study history and when possible, meet those that served on that day of infamy. Take the opportunity to teach your children of the courage and valor that took place that day, so



they will understand the sacrifices that were made and are still being made to protect our great country.'



MM1 Corey Dowdell Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

"Maybe do something with local television. Put it on the local news. Get it out there and advertise."

Staff Sgt. Terrell Thomas. Jr. 647th Civil Engineers Squadron

"I believe the best way to preserve the memory for future generations is to always remember what we are blessed with now. Those men and women who died that day brought a nation together, and we're stronger because of that."





Capt. Brianna Rodriguez HQ PACAF

"We can preserve history by teaching future generations the sacrifices made on that tragic day. The military and the National Park Service do an amazing job with upkeep of the various memorials in

Pearl Harbor. Also, there are several remembrance ceremonies held each year so that we, as a nation, never forget."

Provided by Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi and David D. Underwood Jr.

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share? Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

JBPHH gives advisories in support of Pearl Harbor Day events

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

In support of the Navy/National Pearl Harbor Day commemoration, announces the following advisories:

Today, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Sunday from 7 to 10 a.m., the Ford cle and pedestrian traffic in sup- Hotel piers during the rehearsal fichistoric parks.com.

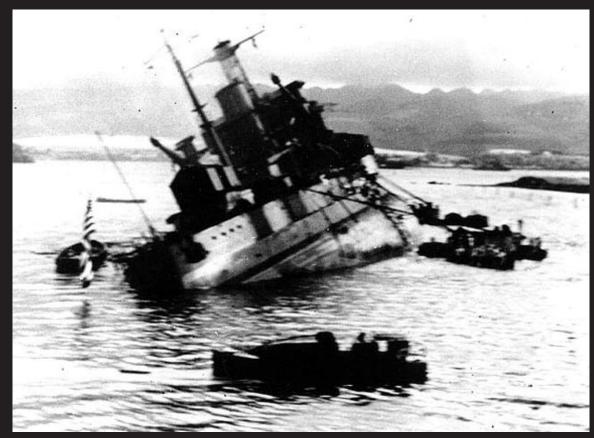
port of the ship "pass-in-review" re- and the ceremony. hearsal and the commemoration ceremony.

Park Service 73rd anniversary a.m., a rehearsal for a cannon ceremony, a vintage aircraft will salute will be conducted, and a conduct a flyby over Pearl Harbor Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam cannon salute will take place on and Ford Island. The aircraft will be Sunday between 9 and 9:30 a.m. emitting decorative smoke to emduring the ceremony. There will be loud noises and some smoke Island Bridge will close to all vehi- emanating from the area around Harbor Day events, visit www.paci

Sunday, beginning at approximately 9:20 a.m., or at the conclu-Today, between 11 to 11:30 sion of the commemoration phasize the pattern flown.

For more information on Pearl

USS Utah capsizes off Ford Island



Official U.S. Navy photograph

The USS Utah (AG-16) capsizes off Ford Island during the attack on Pearl Harbor after being torpedoed by Imperial Japanese aircraft. Utah was photographed during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack from USS Tangier (AV-8), which was moored astern of Utah. Note the colors half-raised over the fantail, boats nearby and sheds covering Utah's after guns.

HO'OKELE

Navy Region Hawaii Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Capt. Mark Manfredi Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Capt. Stanley Keeve Jr.

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What's on Pearl Harbor survivor's Kindle?

Bill Doughty

Former Lt. Cmdr. Ed Vezey, a Pearl Harbor survivor who was aboard USS Oklahoma (BB-37) during the attack of Dec. 7, 1941, told me recently his favorite author is James D. Hornfischer. Among the books on Vezey's Kindle are "Neptune's Inferno," "Last of the Tin Can Sailors" and his top pick, "Ship of Ghosts."

"That book had the most impact on me," Vezey said. "The thing I like about it is how it goes from civilian life to what they did despite the inhumanity they witnessed. Hornfischer really knows how to show the brutality of naval combat. [USS] Houston ran right into the buzzsaw."

For Vezey, who is thought to be the last USS Oklahoma Pearl Harbor survivor living in the state of Oklahoma, "The Guadalcanal Campaign was worse than Pearl Harbor. During the war, instead of hour after hour, it memorial is located adjawas weeks and months, every day and every

Vezey recalls "no-good Battleship



Memorial sits today.

Vezey helped make the

USS Oklahoma Memorial

a reality. The memorial,

dedicated Dec. 7, 2007, is

in tribute to 429 Marines

and Sailors who lost their

lives aboard the USS Ok-

lahoma during the attack.

2010, Vezey, who had re-

in April 1941 as an ensign,

said, "It's hard to convey to

this ship is when you're a

In an interview with

torpedoes" against the enemy, waters "teeming with submarines," and the effects of a battleship's ferocious guns targeting smaller ships. "Sixteen-inch guns would go right through a destroyer, and they would try to hit below the water line,"

Vezey is scheduled to Brandice J. Armstrong at speak at the USS Oklahoma Memorial ceremony on Ford Island this Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The cent to Battleship Row, where USS Oklahoma was

Vezey said.

like we did, it's the fundamental island [of] security."

spend a lot of time at sea

Today, Vezey exercises daily and lives a healthy lifestyle. He has two "themes" in life.

"The first is that life is one whale of an adventure, but don't let go when it tries to throw you off," Vezey said. "The second is to keep pedaling, or else the bike will fall over. This is fundamentally true in your health, your job skills, your marriage. If you stop pedaling, all of a sudden you discover life is passing you by.'

"Life can be great if you don't quit," Vezey said.

That attitude is reflected in Hornfischer's "Ship of Ghosts" and, a generation later, in Craig ⁷enter's autobiography, "A Life Decoded."

(Hornfischer's threeTinker Air Force Base in books mentioned in this article and Venter's "A Life ported to USS Oklahoma Decoded" have each been reviewed on Navy Reads, an unofficial blog in support of non-Sailors how important the Navy's Professional Reading Program and reberthed in 1941 and where Sailor. It's your mother, lated books: http://navy Missouri your home and if you reads.blogspot.com/ — Ed.)

Dec 7: 'Preserving the Memories'

Continued from A-1

town as it takes place.

Online registration to view the event is required. All those interested in watching are encouraged to visit the following link to signup: http://bit.lv/LiveBroadcastDec7. Public access to the Pearl Harbor 73rd **Anniversary Comme-**

The commemoration ceremony is free of charge and the public is invited to attend. Seats for the general public at the commemoration ceremony are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. The visitor center will open at 6 a.m. Seating for the public will begin at 7:15 a.m.

moration ceremony

Limited public parking at visitor center for ceremonv

Additional parking will be available at Richardson Field and Aloha Stadium. Free shuttles will be provided from the stadium to the visitor center. The public is encouraged to arrive early to allow time to park and go through security at the visitor center.

Limited public tour schedule for USS **Arizona Memorial**

mony, public tours on Dec. 7 to the USS Arizona Memorial will operate on a special schedule. The first public tour will begin at 11 a.m. with the last tour beginning at 1 p.m. Tours begin every 15 minutes and include a 23-minute movie presentation followed by a short boat ride and visit to the memorial. Tickets are free and distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Security Cameras are permitted; however, due to strict security measures, camera bags, purses, handbags and/or other items that offer concealment are not allowed. Bag storage is available at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park.

Dress code

Military dress is summer whites or service equivalent. The civilian dress code for the commemoration is aloha business attire, long pants and collared shirts. More information

For more information about the Pearl Harbor Day 73rd Anniversary Commemoration ceremony and special events, visit www.pacific historicparks.org.

(See additional Pearl Harbor Day events on page Due to the morning cere- A-6.)

Pearl Harbor survivor Sterling Cale writes book

Sterling Cale, Pearl Harbor survivor and longtime USS Arizona Memorial volunteer, has released his first book, "A True American."

The National Park Service and Pacific Historic Parks invited the public to celebrate the book and Cale's 93rd birthday Dec. 3 at WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The event included a book



Sterling Cale

with the author.

Cale's military career the world and back again, from a farm in Illinois to Hawaii, Guadalcanal, Korea and row view of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Cale bravely rescued men Story of a Pearl Harbor from the burning water and collected bodies from and Vietnam War Vetthe wreckage of the USS Arizona.

means to be a true American. Published by Pahas taken him around cific Historic Parks, Cale's 56-page book includes photos of his time in Hawaii, his service in Vietnam, volunteering at Vietnam. With a front the USS Arizona Memorial and more.

Survivor, WWII, Korean Pearl Harbor Museum ment. His story is one of ser- Store, operated by Pacific

at phystore.org for \$9.95.

Our Pearl Harbor celebrate his 93rd birthument," DePrey, superintendent, For more information WWII Valor in the Pa- on the book launch, visit

"It is our mission to page fb.com/pacificparks.

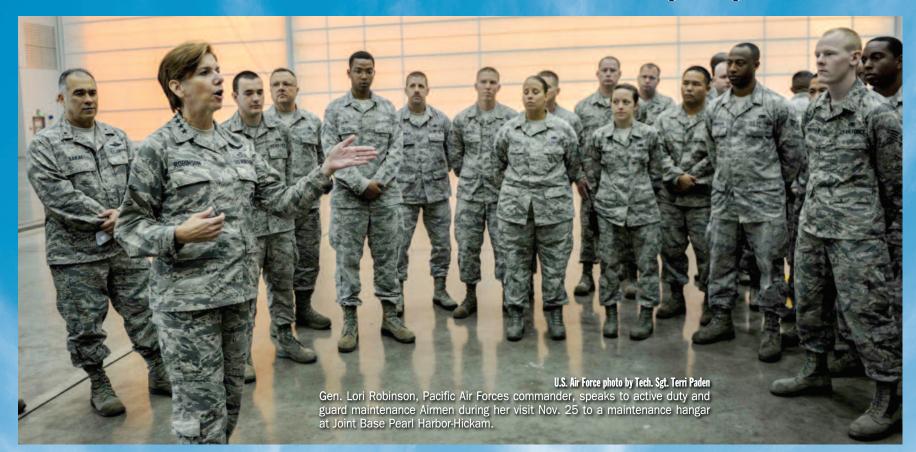
ture generations. Uncle Sterling's amazing story survivors are our most is sure to inspire USS precious resource. We Arizona Memorial visiare grateful for Uncle tors for years to come. Sterling's years of ser- Pacific Historic Parks is vice at the USS Arizona proud to be the publisher Memorial and honored to of Uncle Sterling's book," said Gene Caliwag, pres-"A True American: The day with him at the mon- ident and CEO, Pacific said Paul Historic Parks.

eran" is available at the cific National Monu- www.pacifichistoric parks.org or the Facebook

signing, cake and photos vice, sacrifice and what it Historic Parks, and online keep history alive for fu-

National Park Service

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



(Right) Rear Adm. Rick Williams, right, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, at right, serves Thanksgiving meals Nov. 27 at the Silver Dolphin Bistro, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Silver Dolphin Bistro







U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Amanda Morris (Above) Master Sgt. Shawn Pangborn, 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron F-22 Raptor crew chief, and 1st Lt. Jeff Braden, 19th Fighter Squadron pilot from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam review the day's flight Nov. 23, at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

(Above) The Pearl Harbor magnetic silencing facility (MSF) team completed a successful magnetic treatment (deperm) event Nov. 25. Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam has the only drive-in submarine deperm facility in the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility (with two certified deperm engineers) and a state-of-the-art type 6 electromagnetic measurement range. This enables the U.S. Pacific Fleet submarine force to maintain its magnetic stealth capability.

U.S. Navy photo by Cmdr. Dennis Mojica

(Right) Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Robert Titus signals an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter from the aft missile deck of the Arleigh Burke-class guid-ed-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) during a Nov. 13 replenishment-at-sea in the waters south of Japan. Halsey is participating in Keen Sword, a joint/bilateral field training exercise involving U.S. military and the Japan Self-Defense Force.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Bradley J. Gee



Events this weekend remember Pearl Harbor Day

National Park Service

Additional events have been planned in conjunction with the 73rd anniversary commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day, which will be held from today to Sunday. They are as follows:

Hawaii Pops Concert honoring USS Arizona Band, 7:30 p.m. today, Pacific Aviation Mu-

Table seating \$95, general admission \$45.

Join Hawaii Pops as they honor Band 22, the band of the USS Arizona. The performance will feature selections that were played in the Battle of Music on Dec. 6, 1941 and other selections of the era. Admission for Pearl Harbor survivors and Medal of Honor recipients is free. Tickets are available at www.hawaii pops.com or at the Honolulu box office at 550-8457.

USS Utah Sunset Ceremony and Interment, 5-6 p.m. Saturday, USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

Free admission—base access required.

Pearl Harbor survivors, military personnel and their sponsored guests are invited to attend a sunset ceremony at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island, honoring those lost aboard the USS Utah.

Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor Anniversary Dinner Gala—"Destinations & Dreams," 6:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Ford Island hangars.

General admission \$250. The annual fundraiser for Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor. Capt. Chelsey B. Sullenberger will be this year's guest speaker. Emcee for the evening will be actor, journalist and TV host David Hartman. Honoree of Dec. 7, 1941 remembrance cerethe evening is the museum's past chairman of the board, Adm. Ronald J. Hays. The event will



tainment and prize opportunities to help support the museum's restoration and education programs. Event will be hosted in the battlefield hangars of Ford Island. For ticket sales, visit www. Pacific A viation Museum.org or call 808-441-1006.

Hickam Field Ceremony, 7:55-9 a.m. Sunday, Atterbury Circle, JBPHH.

Free admission—base access required.

The 15th Wing will host the mony at 7:55 a.m. Sunday at the Atterbury Circle historic flag pole on the Hickam side of Joint Base include cocktails, dinner, enter- Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The event the 73rd anniversary of the from the USS Arizona Memorial and Hawaii.

wounded during the attacks. The ceremony is open to all military identification card holders, veterans, survivors of the attack, and guests of attending survivors. Base access is required. Attendees must be in place by 7:15

Barbers Point Remem**brance Ceremony**, 7:45 a.m. Sunday, Barbers Point Golf Course.

Free admission.

The Aloha Chapter of the Maolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States will observe

will honor the 189 killed and 303 Japanese attack at Ewa Marine Corps Air Station to honor those Marines who fought and died there

Blackened Canteen Ceremony, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sun-

Free admission with USS Arizona Memorial ticket.

Dr. Hiroya Sugano, director general of the Zero Fighter Admirers' Club, will be here from Japan to conduct this annual commemoration of peace and reconciliation ceremony with a rine Corps League and the Hon-silent prayer and pouring whiskey from a World War IIblackened canteen into the water

as an offering to the spirits of the fallen. A roundtable discussion will follow at Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor. Tickets will be available beginning at 6 a.m. Sunday at the USS Arizona

Memorial ticket desk. USS Oklahoma Memorial Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance on Ford Island, 1:30-

2:30 p.m. Sunday. Free admission. Free shuttle to Ford Island departs every 15 minutes from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. from the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park shuttle stop.

The event will be hosted by the National Park Service in honor of those who served on the USS Oklahoma during the attack on Pearl Harbor. The USS Oklahoma (BB-37) Memorial was officially dedicated on Dec. 7, 2007. The memorial is located on Ford Island near Fox-5 Pier next to the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

The battleship Oklahoma was berthed along Ford Island on Dec. 7, 1941 and suffered the second greatest loss of life during the attack. The memorial includes 429 marble columns symbolizing each of the crew members who lost their lives on that fateful day. Members of the public wishing to attend the ceremony can catch a free shuttle departing every 15 minutes from the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park, which is adjacent to the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade, 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Ft. DeRussy to Kapiolani Park.

Free admission. The Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade committee will host the Pearl Harbor Parade featuring Pearl Harbor survivors, military and government officials, and marching bands and parade units from the U.S. mainland





Hickam Elementary hosts survivors of Dec. 7, 1941 attack

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

Twelve survivors of the Dec. 7, 1941, attacks on Pearl Harbor and Hickam visited Hickam Elementary School Dec. 4 to commemorate the anniversary of the event and speak with the students about their experiences while stationed in Hawaii 73 years ago.

"We want to thank you for visiting our school and for all you have done for us," said Rory Vierra, Hickam Elementary School principal.

The survivors traveled here from the continental U.S. as part of a trip organized by the Greatest Generation Foundation, a non-profit international organization dedicated to promoting recognition and respect for war veterans of past and current con-

"I think it's great that they're here because it gives the students a historical context of said. "It's a living memorial students] to know the history of



Hickam Elementary School students greet survivors of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and Hickam Airfield at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The survivors visited the school Dec. 4 to commemorate the anniversary of the attack and to share their stories with the students and faculty.

what occurred here," Vierra here, so it's important for [the their community."

Students lined the entrance of stories

the school and greeted the survivors, many of whom were visibly emotional to see the support of the students. Twelve students were selected as escorts for the guests and accompanied them to individual classrooms where they shared their personal sto-

One of the survivors, Robert Blum, was the only member of the group assigned to Hickam Airfield at the time of the attacks. He shared his story with Lizbeth Rabaino's fourth grade

"We were scared, but we were also angry so we kicked into gear and did what we had to do to survive," Blum said as he described the beginning of the attack.

Blum was a technical school aircraft maintenance instructor here in 1941 and was wounded in the attack by a bomb detona-

The survivors will also have an opportunity to visit other areas of the base to speak with service members and share their

USS Chafee holds change of command ceremony at joint base

Story and photo by **Ensign James Duncan**

USS Chafee (DDG-90) Public Affairs

Cmdr. Shea S. Thompson relieved Cmdr. Anthony Littmann as commanding officer of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destrover USS Chafee (DDG-90) during a change of command ceremony held Nov. 25 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Littmann served as executive officer aboard Chafee through a U.S. 7th Fleet deployment, participation in Operation Valiant Shield and Koa Kai 2012 before assuming command in April 2013.

During his command tour, Littmann led Chafee through an extended maintenance period and Battle "E" for combat- through the inport period crew. "Chafee, you are al-



Cmdr. Shea S. Thompson, left, prepares to receive the Command at Sea insignia from Cmdr. Anthony Littmann during the USS Chafee (DDG-90) change of command ceremony held Nov 25.

basic phase as well as ready excellence. earning Chafee's second Littmann led the crew

mand philosophy of maintaining a "steady strain" approach while being "stronger, better, faster."

"To the officers, chiefs and crew of Chafee, I leave you with one final thought and one that as a surface warfare professional I consider the greatest compliment I can offer: I will gladly sail this warship into battle and fight alongside each and every one of you," he said.

For his time aboard, Littmann was presented the Meritorious Service Medal by Capt. Christopher Bushnell, Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31. Littmann is scheduled to transfer to Washington, D.C. for his next tour.

After reading his orders and assuming command, Thompson addressed the

by implementing a com- ready stronger, better and trol assistant and first faster. It is now time for you to be disciplined, fearless and lethal as we carry out our nation's bidding,'

> Thompson assumed the position of executive officer of USS Chafee on March 17, 2013.

Thompson is a native of 53). San Marcos, Calif. and graduated from the Naval Academy in 1997 and also holds an MBA from the School in Monterrey, Calif. He is married to Dr. Darcy Thompson and has three children.

clude duty as damage con- Rhode Island.

lieutenant aboard the USS George Philip (FFG 12) as well as a tour as the navigator onboard the USS Cape St. George (CG 71).

As a department head, he served aboard the USS John Paul Jones (DDG-

This change of command was the seventh in the ship's 11 years of service.

Chafee is named for the Naval Post Graduate late Sen. John Chafee who served in the U.S. Marine Corps, both at Guadalcanal and in the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines "Dog Thompson's sea tours Company" during the Kohave been spent serving in rean War. Sen. Chafee the Asian Pacific theater. went on to serve as Secre-His operational division tary of the Navy, governor officer assignments in- and senator of the state of

Battle continues against coconut rhinoceros beetle

Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi

Navy Region Hawaii Public **Affairs**

For the past year, a team has been working to eradicate the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) from the island of Oahu. This team is comprised of personnel from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC), University of Hawaii (UH) and other organizations.

The CRB team has been the focus of this effort is performing the surveys, extermination and public awareness work to minimize the spread and eventually eliminate the beetle on Oahu.

HDOA is the lead agency in this effort, but the Navy and Air Force have played a major part, particularly as the beetle was first discovered on JBPHH. Work performed by personnel on captured on Oahu. CRB JBPHH includes construct- larvae have been discoving traps and disposing of material that is infested or piles composed of materials potentially infested by such as tree trimmings,

Rob Curtiss, incident chippings. Virtually all commander for the CRB plant waste that is left unteam, said this is still just covered has the potential to the beginning in work become a nest for the CRB. against the CRB. "So far

things are going well. We considered to mitigate the tive treatments. still have a long way to go, but we have made

program," he said.

widespread.

were discontinued or if the

beetle managed to become

more than 2,600 adult and

larval beetles have been

ered in a variety of mulch

grass cuttings and wood

Several ideas were first

Since the initial discovery in December 2013,

they were found to be ineffective when applied to CRB adults and larvae in legal quantities. Further tests are currently being conducted using different insecticides before application on mulch and trees around the isgreat progress. In addition, the relation-

s o m e

An initial meaships that have been established between agencies limit the growth of the will continue to be the best CRB population was to thing to come of this entire grind the mulch being used as nesting material in a Curtiss explained that tub grinder. While this was not an efficient means eradication of the beetle. of destroying the eggs, it The team would only would kill later immature change to a posture of limitstages and a significant ing the beetle's spread if number of adults, giving funding of the program the program additional

time to develop more effec-

problem of CRB infestation.

A variety of insecticides have been tested; however,

Mulch was doubleground and covered to impede adults from laying more eggs

Composting was introduced as another method of managing infested plant waste. Forty-cubic-yard roll-off containers were simply configured as invessel composting reactors. The temperatures within the containers reach as high as 170 degrees within 70 to 80 hours. Laboratory sure that was devised to research indicated that at a temperature of 140 degrees for one hour, 100 percent of both larval and adult CRB were exterminated.

In addition to composting, air curtain burners are currently being used to incinerate green waste. Several burners have been preferentially on coconut sent to the following e-mail purchased by the Navy, USDA and HDOA to

material that is or could hour while producing minimal ash and smoke.

support for the CRB eradication effort, funding has eral agencies. The USDA has provided \$2.8 million, HDOA has given \$1.5 million, HISC has contributed \$425,000, and the Navy has allotted \$2.19 million for the project.

The CRB has a hard black shell with a horn on its head. Adult beetles are nocturnal and can grow to feed on oil palms, other com.

rapidly dispose of plant palm species, banana, sugarcane, papaya, sisal become a CRB nest. Incin- and pineapple. The CRB eration is a very effective can often kill a palm tree method as one air curtain when feeding on it, which burner can dispose of up to makes it a very destrucfour tons of green waste an tive species for Pacific islands.

To prevent additional To provide financial CRB infestations, residents are encouraged to dispose of all green waste been allocated from sev- in receptacles made of a hard material. Plastic tarps are not sufficient to keep beetles out of potential nests.

Residents can report any sighting of the beetle to the state pest hotline at 643-PEST (643-7378).

Information such as physical address and a description of where it was more than two inches in found are needed. Pictures length. The beetle feeds of possible CRB may be palm trees, but will also address: stoprhino@gmail.

Remains of WWII Airmen returned

U.S. Department of Defense

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced Dec. 1 that the remains of servicemen, missing in action from World War II, have been accounted for and are being returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

Army Air Forces 1st Lts. William D. Bernier of Augusta, Mont.; Bryant E. Poulsen of Salt Lake City, Utah and Herbert V. Young Jr. of Clarkdale, Ariz.; Tech Sgts. Charles L. Johnston of Pittsburgh and Hugh F. Moore of Elkton, Md.; Staff Sgts. John E. Copeland of Dearing, Kan. and Charles J. Jones of Athens, Ga.; and Sgt. Charles A. Gardner of San Francisco, have been accounted for and will be buried with full military honors. Gardner will be buried Dec. 4 in Arlington National

On April 10, 1944, Gardner, along with 11 other B-24D Liberator crew members, took off from Texter Strip, Nazdab Air Field, New Guinea, on a mission to attack an anti-aircraft site at Hansa Bay. The aircraft was shot down by enemy anti-aircraft fire over the Madang Province, New Guinea. Four of the crewmen were able to parachute from the aircraft but were reported to have died in captivity.

Following World War II, the Army Graves Registration Service (AGRS) conducted investigations and recovered the remains of three of the missing airmen. In May 1949, AGRS concluded the remaining nine crew members were unrecoverable.

In 2001, a U.S.-led team located wreckage of a B-24D that bore the tail number of this aircraft. After several surveys, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) teams excavated the site and recovered human remains and non-biological material evidence.

To identify Gardner's remains, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, including, mitochondrial DNA, which matched Gardner's maternal niece and nephew.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO website at www.dtic.mil/dpmo.



'Runnin' Lady Paniolos hold off Schofield Warriors

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor, Ho'okele

After building a championship squad in women's flag football, the Lady Paniolos are proving to be just as dominant on the hard courts as well as in the inaugural season of the Hawaii's Finest Sports (HFS) women's basketball league.

Commissioner Mike Todd, a military veteran and current Department of Defense civilian at Joint Intelligence Operation Center, oversees HFS, which also includes a men's flag football league.

Teams in the new league are filled with civilians and active-duty military or armed forces family members.

Coming off an unbeaten regular season in women's flag football, the Lady Paniolos are transferring their same perfection to the court in raising their record to 7-0 after defeating the Schofield Warriors, 35-29, on Nov. 29 at Whitmore Community Park in Wahiawa.

Against the Warriors, the Lady Paniolos fell behind early but picked up the pace to take a double-digit lead in the second half before hanging on for the win.

"With my girls, I have to calm them down," said Lady Ps head coach Army Sgt. Marcello McDade about the team's up-and-down performance. "We start off slow and once we get going, they get a little jittery, so I got to calm them down."

In the first few minutes of play, the Warriors took advantage of the Lady Paniolos slow start by pounding the ball to the inside where the front line of Army Sgt. Sharika Culpepper and Staff Sgt. Velvet Dotson staked their team to an early 6-0 lead.

In order to get his team back into the game, McDade responded by instructing the Lady Ps to utilize their own inside attack, where former Moanalua High School standout Britni Ronolo manned the post.

The strategy produced immediate results as Ronolo muscled her way to back-to-back hoops to pull her team to within two points.

Then with 9:33 remaining in the first half, the Lady Paniolos took their first lead of the game at 8-7 on a basket by point guard Monica Chock.

The Warriors managed to go back out in front on a shot by Dotson, but with seven minutes to go before halftime the Lady Paniolos went on a 9-0 run to take an 18-10 advantage before Dotson ended the streak with a three-point shot just before the buzzer.

During the run, the Lady Paniolos dominated in the blocks with Ronolo doing most of the damage by coming up with nine of the team's 18 first-half points.

The Lady Paniolos also got two lay-ups from guard Army Spc. Abigail McKoy.

"I've been trying to get that all game," McDade said about the team's inside play. "If you see my team, they like to shoot threes. But once we start penetrating and getting the ball in the paint, you see what happens."

In the second half, the Lady Paniolos kept their momentum moving forward and with 12:21 remaining in the game, a basket by Chock gave the team its biggest lead at 27-15.

A final push by the Warriors cut the lead in half, but it would be as close as the team from Schofield Barracks would get.

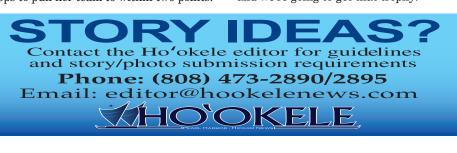
"They just got tired," Warriors head coach Staff Sgt. Jamal Pretty explained about falling short. "We don't have enough players. They (Lady Paniolos) got a full team. They can sub out five at a time. We can't do that."

For the Lady Paniolos, the team was led by Ronolo with 11 points and Chock with seven, while the Warriors got 11 points from Dotson and 10 from Culpepper.

Although McDade said that the Lady Paniolos needed to close out the game a little bit stronger, he was pleased with their effort

"I'm thankful to have some talent," he said. "Every week is a new week. As I tell the team, 'stay focused, stay and humble and we're going to get that trophy."





Wyld Stallyns go crazy in final game of season

Story and photo by

Randy Dela Cruz Sports Editor, Ho'okele

With both teams going into their showdown with identical 4-6 records, it was obvious to everyone that neither squad was going to advance to the playoffs.

Still, with seemingly nothing on the line, the Fleet Intelligence Adaptive Force (FIAF) Wyld Stallyns gave everything they got to earn a 28-0 mercy-rule victory over Joint Base Security Mud Dogs, Dec. 2, at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Quarterback Intelligence Specialist 2nd Class Malik Coleman threw for two touchdowns and ran for another to lead the Wyld Stallyns their fifth victory of the season.

about having fun," Coleman said. "We wanted to put everything that we had into it just to make sure we leave on a good note.

Right off the bat, the Wyld Stallyns came out hungry and immediately took the opening drive all the way for 65 yards and a quick 7-0 lead.

The drive was topped off with a short scoring pass from Coleman to Intelligence Specialist 3rd Class Brandon

After forcing the Mud Dogs to punt on their first possession, Coleman and his teammates went right back to

then threw it over the top to Intelligence Specialist 2nd

work. With first and 11 to go and the ball resting on his own 31, Coleman skirted around the Mad Dogs pass rush and

"Knowing that we're not going into the playoffs, it's all Class Mitchell Murphy for the team's second touchdown of the game.

"I've got athletic wide receivers," said Coleman about why he was so successful through the air. "They get after it every time. I just throw the ball to the open spot and

The Wyld Stallyns converted their extra-point attempt to take a 14-0 lead through halftime.

Both teams opened the second half a little shaky and exchanged the football on turnovers.

After the Mud Dogs stopped the Wyld Stallyns on their first drive on a pick, defensive back Chief Intelligence Specialist Jared Jeppson returned the favor by stealing a pass at midfield and taking it all the way to the house for

Coleman said that the pressure up front by the team's linemen helped contribute to the pick by Jeppson.

"Given that we have a great secondary, it all started with that pressure," Coleman said.

The Wyld Stallyns converted their third point-after in a

row to go up by a score of 21-0. Up by three scores, the Wyld Stallyns defense continued to wear down the Mud Dogs and after forcing the team to

punt, Coleman was ready to put the game away for good. On the very first play from the Mud Dogs 22, Coleman, who had already delivered two passes for touchdowns, showed why he is a double threat by scrambling from his backfield into the end zone for the final touchdown of the

The Wyld Stallyns made it 28-0 after the point-after touchdown and with only two minutes remaining in the game, officials called it due to the league's mercy rule.

The mercy rule states that if a team is up by 20 points at the time of the final two-minute warning, the game would be called over by officials.

The outstanding performance by the Wyld Stallyns proves that the team was a playoff-caliber squad, Coleman said.

"There was a couple of times when we didn't give it our all," he admitted. "Other times, the watch kind of keeps players from coming out to play those critical positions. It is what it is.'



Juggernauts squeak past Divers in football shootout

Story and photo by

Randy Dela Cruz Sports Editor, Hoʻokele

Senior Airman Juan Nunez scored the go-ahead touchdown and then preserved the lead with an interception to steer the 8th Intelligence Squadron Juggernauts to a 19-18 win over Mobile Diving Salvage Unit (MDSU) 1 Divers on Dec. 2 in a White Division intramural flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Nunez gave the team the lead when he caught a short pass at the Juggernauts 20-yard line and turned it upfield for a 70-yard, catch-and-run for a touchdown and then locked down the victory by picking off a pass in his own end zone with

under a minute remaining in the game. The win kept the Juggernauts in the driver's seat for the division's fourth and final qualifying playoff berth with a record of 8-2 and may have closed the door on the Divers postseason hopes after

"I was waiting for them to put the ball in the air because they were trying everything deep," said Nunez about his gamepreserving interception. "Once I seen him roll and once he stopped, oh that ball is going up and that's mine.

The pick was a fitting end to the game, which went back and forth from the opening drive until the final whistle.

After the Juggernauts opened with a touchdown that led to a 7-0 advantage, the Divers settled down and came back to score back-to-back TDs and take a 12-7 lead going into halftime.

On MDSU's first drive, the Divers picked up six points on a short pass from quarterback Chief Navy Diver Jacob Schonacher to Navy Diver 2nd Class Matthew Villafuerte.

Then with time running out before halftime, Schonacher, from his own eightyard line, connected on two bombs to his team's chances in the playoffs. "There's Navy Diver 2nd Class Nickolaus Powell

to put the ball on the Juggernauts eight before hitting Navy Diver 2nd Class Mike Christianson for six on the final play of the first half for a 12-7 lead.

In the second half, Juggernauts QB Staff Sgt. James Chaney took his team on a long march down to the Divers 10 on only five plays.

The drive appeared to be stopped when Chaney, on fourth down, had his pass to the end zone batted away.

However, the Divers got flagged for pass interference, which gave the Juggernauts one more chance from the four-yard line.

This time, Chaney hit 1st Sgt. Matthew Cramer on a cross pattern inside the end one for a touchdown and 13-12 lead.

"That was real important," Chaney said about getting the touchdown right out of the break. "We had to get back into the game."

Back the other way, Schonacher wasted little time in getting his team back out

After picking up 15 yards on the first play, Schonacher went over the top and hit Villafuerte with a bomb of 50 yards to retake the lead at 18-13.

The score set the stage for Nunez, who then got the long catch-and-run touchdown before stopping the Divers at the Juggernauts 16-yard line with the pick inside the end zone.

"The defense bailed me out," Chaney admitted. "Nu is one of our best corners and he got the pick to save it. This defense, I knew they got it. They really are one of the best defenses.'

While Chaney pointed out that every win this late in the season is important, this win was especially welcomed after it stopped a two-game skid and nailed down a spot in the playoffs.

"If we buckle down and get everything right, we can win it," Chaney said about nobody that can beat us.'



Annual Festival of Lights at Pearl Harbor to begin Dec. 8

Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Ships and submarines around Pearl Harbor will be displaying ornamental lights and decorations for the annual Festival of Lights from Dec. 8 to 25. A competition to select the winning ships and submarines will take place on the evening of Dec. 8 and be judged by representatives from U.S. Pacific Fleet, U.S. Pacific Command, Submarine Force Pacific, Joint Interagency Task Force West, and Navy Region Hawaii/Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Following this contest, there will be free boat tours for both military/DoD ID cardholders and the general public. Military/ DoD tours will depart from Merry Point

General public tours will depart from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. Tours will be approximately 15-20 minutes long aboard Arizona Memorial white boats.

Tours for military/DoD ID cardholders

- will be offered per the following schedule:
- Dec. 8, 7:15 9 p.m.
- Dec. 9, 6 − 8 p.m. • Dec. 10, 6 - 8 p.m.
- Tours for the general public will be offered per the following schedule:

• Dec. 11, 6 - 8 p.m.

• Dec. 12, 6 – 8 p.m. These harbor tours are offered as a free service by the Navy and the National Park Service. Seats are limited and tickets for the general public will be distributed on a first come, first served basis beginning at 5:30 pm on the day of the tour at the visitor center.

There are no tickets or reservations for military/DoD ID cardholders. People are asked to meet at Merry Point Landing for seats to be filled on a first come, first served basis. Guests of military/DoD personnel may accompany their sponsors for tours from Merry Point Landing.

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.

Valuables should not be left in vehicles. Please note that cameras and videos are allowed on board 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 recom-

For more information about the event and tours, contact Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi at eric.galassi@navy.mil or (808) 473-0660 for military/DOD or Amanda Carona at (808) 422-3315 for the general public.

Hickam Communities offers holiday lighting reminder for residents

Hickam Communities

As a reminder about holiday lighting, guidelines are listed in the Hickam Communities resident guide, Section 6.16: Ornamental Lighting for Holidays Residents are not allowed on roofs for

Reasonable use of inside and outside

electric ornamental lighting is authorized, including blow-up lawn ornaments. Residents should not penetrate roofs, siding or fascia with nails, staples, bolts, screws, etc. to install lighting. Residents are asked to note the following:

- Residents may use clips or tape that is specifically designed to install temporary holiday lighting.
- · Residents should carefully inspect and control ornamental lighting to avoid fire. • Extension cords are intended for occasional use and should not used on a perma-
- nent or semipermanent basis inside or outside of any Hickam Communities home.

Use of ornamental lighting is authorized

Two weeks prior to and one week after

all nationally recognized holidays. Thirty days prior to and two weeks after

the Christmas/New Year season.

- Residents should ensure that all selfinstalled lighting will be used in proper applications and meet safety regulations. Outdoor lighting and electrical cords
- approved and designed for outdoor use. • Lighting can only be placed on the first floor roofline (no second floor roofline applications).

need to be Underwriter Laboratory (UL)

- Residents are responsible for any damage and/or liability resulting from the use of ornamental lighting.
- Residents should practice energy conservation and limit the use of ornamental lighting to the evening time. The lighting should not be left on during daylight

Additional guidelines may apply to historic homes.

Hickam Communities advises residents to contact their resident services team for more information.

GOT SPORTS

Phone: 473-2890

editor@hookelenews.com

Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements.



Live the Great L



MWR Marketing photo by Ryan Graham

Guides assist patrons on a recent kayak trip to Chinaman's Hat.

Explore Chinaman's Hat with and tips to inexperienced kayakers.

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The joint base Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Outdoor Recreation Program offers a kayaking trip to Chinaman's Hat, also known as Mokoli'i, a small island located on the eastern side of Oahu. The island is part of Kualoa Regional Park and is about one third of a mile offshore of Kualoa Point.

The next Chinaman's Hat kayaking trip will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 13.

For more information and to register, visit the MWR Outdoor Adventure Center located in the Fleet Store, building 1786. Registration must be made by Dec. 10. This kayaking trip costs \$30 per person.

All MWR Outdoor Recreation activities are led by experienced and knowledgeable guides. They will provide basic techniques Life Hawaii magazine or call 473-1198.

The paddle is usually easy, depending on MWR Outdoor Recreation the winds and can take about 15 to 30 minutes each way.

Once participants arrive on the island. the guides, help them land their kayaks and they will have some time to explore. Participants can swim in a small cove, snorkel around or hike to the top of the island and have a view of Kaneohe Bay.

The trip includes round trip transportation. The MWR Outdoor Recreation guides recommend that participants bring water, small snacks, sunscreen and footwear, preferably reef-walking shoes. MWR Outdoor Recreation will provide the kayaks, paddles and personal flotation devices.

MWR Outdoor Recreation also provides other activities such as surfing, stand-up paddle boarding, snorkeling, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, spearfishing and canoe paddling. For those comfortable exploring on their own, gear is also available for rent.

For more information and to see a full list of upcoming recreational activities, visit greatlifehawaii.com, pick up a Great



Conditions of the vehicles at Saturday's auction will vary over a wide range.

Abandoned vehicle auction set for Saturday

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

An abandoned vehicle auction will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the abandoned car lot at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The auction is open to the public and will provide the opportunity for savvy shoppers to get a deal on a vehicle as long as they recognize what they are getting. Approximately 150 cars, vans, trucks and motorcycles will be up for bid at the lot.

The vehicles on display were picked up around base and are put up for sale only after attempts were made to contact the owners.

All items are considered to be in non-operating condition and do not have keys. Successful bidders will have the responsibility of removing their vehicles with an appropriate towing company.

Minimum starting bids for all vehicles are \$150, and the closed bids must be made Saturday during the hours of the auction. Vehicles are sold "as-is" and no mechanical work will be allowed on the lot. All sales are final and no refunds will be given.

A free shuttle will operate to and from the pass and ID office from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Those with base access may park along the fence outside of the lot. Children under 16 years old are not permitted on the sale lot.

For more information, a listing of the items up for auction and photos of most of the vehicles, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com.

Your Weekly Fun with MWR

Free Karaoke Friday will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at the Escape Bowling Center (Wahiawa Annex). Free karaoke will be available during open bowling hours. FMI: 473-2651.

Holiday Open House will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. This free event features maken-takes, craft demos, door prizes, sales store specials and free hot dogs and soda. FMI: 448-9907.

Library Know-How will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Library. This free session will cover how to search the online catalog and use the Dewey Decimal system and will include demonstrations of available online resources. FMI: 449-8299.

Monday Night Kid's Night will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 8 at Sam Choy's Island Style Seafood Grille. Children ages 12 years and younger can get a free kid's meal with the purchase of an adult entrée. A bounce house will be available for children from 5 to 7 p.m. FMI: 422-3002.

Sport Shot Monday will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 8 at Naval Station Bowling Center. The bowler with the highest three-game series for the night will receive three free games of bowling on his or her next visit. FMI: 473-2574.

Stretching & Core class will be held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Dec. 9 and Dec. 11 at the Hickam channel pathway. Attendees should bring a yoga mat and water to class. The fee is \$5 per class. FMI: 471-2019.

Visit www.greatlifehawaii.com or subscribe to MWR's digital magazine Great Life Hawaii.

10 a.m. Dec. 10 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Library. The theme will be "Counting Cookies." FMI: 449-8299.

Ford Island Historical Tour will be held from 9:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 10. Points of interest on this guided tour include the USS Utah and USS Oklahoma Memorials, the Navy Club Memorial, historic Nob Hill officer homes, and bombing and bullet strafing reminders. Round-trip transportation from the Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)-Hickam office is included. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children ages 3 to 11 years old. FMI: 448-

Cookies & Canvas: Beach Dreams painting class for youth ages 5 to 12 years old will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 10 at the

Preschool Story Time will be held from 9 to Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. The fee is \$25 and includes supplies. FMI: 448-9907.

> Kids' Book Club will begin at 2 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Library for youth in fourth and fifth grades. Group one (the Second Wednesday group) will discuss "From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler" by E.L. Konigsburg and will take home "Home on the Moon" by Marianne Dyson. FMI: 449-8299.

> Free Golf Clinic will begin at noon Dec. 11 at Navy-Marine Golf Course. FMI: 471-0142.

> **PeeWee Soccer** Registration period for youth ages 3 to 5 years old closes Dec. 12. The season runs from January to March. Registration is available at www.greatlifehawaii.com, and the fee is \$35. FMI: 473-0789.



DECEMBER

VEHICLE REGISTRATION ONLINE APPOINTMENTS
NOW — The new Pearl Harbor Vehicle Registration office now
offers a new online appointment system. Walk-in customers will
no longer be taken. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to

no longer be taken. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The online appointment system is now open for reservations each Monday at 9 a.m. for Tuesday and Thursday appointments for that week. FMI:

http://go.usa.gov/s8Jk or

http://www1.honolulu.gov/csd/satellite/jbphh.htm.

PEARL HARBOR DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Navy and National Park Service are looking for active duty military personnel from all services to volunteer in various events commemorating the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. FMI: JBPHH Public Affairs Office at 473-2926 or 473-2880 or www.pacifichistoricparks.org.

FORD ISLAND BRIDGE CLOSURES

TODAY, 7 — All lanes of the Ford Island Bridge will be closed from 9:30 to 11 a.m. today and from 7 to 10 a.m. Dec. 7 for operations in support of ceremonies commemorating the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. All motorists and pedestrians are asked to plan accordingly. The small craft gate must be closed during the bridge opening to minimize collision hazards when the roadway pontoon is in motion. Boat traffic under the causeway will be prohibited during that time.

FOREST CITY HOLIDAY EVENTS

DECEMBER — Activities this upcoming week for Forest City residents include "Surfin' Santa Photo Op" sessions from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Dec. 10 for Camp Stover housing; 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 10 for Hokulani housing residents; and 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 11 for Ford Island residents.

All month long, Forest City Pearl City Peninsula housing area residents will also hold weekly ornament drawings at the resident services office. In addition, throughout December, Pearl City Peninsula housing residents can stop by the resident services office from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Fridays for a holiday cookie treat. Santa will visit the Hele Mai housing area from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 11 with treats and goodie bags to give away. FMI: www.fcnavyhawaii.com.

ARMED SERVICES BLOOD DRIVES

Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center has updated its schedule of upcoming blood drives as part of the Armed Services Blood Donor Program (ASBP).

- Dec. 8, 8 a.m. to noon, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, building 375, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.
- Dec. 9, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 205th Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Shafter.
- Dec. 11, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Naval Submarine Support Command, 822 Clark St., Suite 400, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.
- Dec. 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.
- Dec. 22 and 23, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., blood donor center

room 2A207, Tripler Army Medical Center. FMI: 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil.

SPOUSES PERSONNEL AND PAY BRIEF

12 — Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Pearl Harbor will hold a Spouses Personnel and Pay Brief from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the PSD Pearl Harbor classroom (1043). The classroom is located in the Moanalua Shopping Center. FMI: email anna.blackmon.ctr@navy.mil or celena.robison.ctr@navy.mil.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

13 — The annual Breakfast with Santa will begin at 8 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange food court lanai. Besides a pancake and bacon breakfast and a framed picture with Santa, the event will include glitter tattoos, balloon twisters and holiday arts and crafts for children. The cost is \$12 for children and \$8 for adults. The event is for authorized patrons only. FMI: 423-3287.

CHRISTMAS ORIGAMI

13 — Parent and child Christmas origami will be held from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. The event is for children ages 6 to 12 years old accompanied by a parent. The cost is \$20. FMI: 448-9907.

HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS

14, 18, 20-24 — Annual Honolulu City Lights: holiday display tours will depart at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 14, 18 and 20-24 from Bloch Arena. The cost is \$15 per person ages 5 and older, and free for children ages 4 and under (on an adult's lap). FMI: 448-2295.

SPACE AVAILABLE BRIEF

19 — Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Air Mobility Command (AMC) Passenger Terminal will hold a "space available" brief beginning at 10 a.m. at the Hickam Memorial Theater to anyone interested in exploring this benefit. Space available travel is a means where military affiliated personnel can travel on aircraft when excess capability allows. FMI: 449-6833 or visit the Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/HickamAMC.

UGLY SWEATER RUN

20 — An Ugly Sweater Run will begin at 8 a.m, at Hickam Fitness Center. The free event is open to active-duty military, their families and Department of Defense civilians. Awards will be given to first and second place winners in mens, womens, youth and strollers categories. Special awards will be given to participants with the top three ugliest sweaters. Participants can sign up at the Hickam Fitness Center. FMI: 448-2214.

LIBERTY'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH

25 — A free Liberty's Christmas Lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. at all Liberty Centers. The event is for single, active-duty Sailors and Airmen only. FMI: 473-2583.

CHRISTMAS DAY DOUBLE-FEATURE

25 — Patrons can watch two movies for the price of one admission ticket at 7 p.m. at Sharkey Theater. Movie goers can check the Sharkey Theater link on www.greatlifehawaii.com. FMI: 473-0726.



BIG HERO 6 (PG)

Big Hero 6 is an action comedy adventure about brilliant robotics prodigy Hiro Hamada, who finds himself in the grips of a criminal plot that threatens to destroy the fast-paced, high-tech city of San Fransokyo. With the help of his closest companion-a robot named Baymax-Hiro joins forces with a reluctant team of first-time crime fighters on a mission to save their city.

SHARKEY THEATER

TODAY 12/5

7:00 p.m. St. Vincent (PG-13)

SATURDAY 12/6

2:30 p.m. Big Hero 6 (PG)

Free advance screening - Free to the first 400 authorized patrons. Tickets will be given out at the Sharkey Theater Ticket Booth at 5:30 pm. Military active duty can receive up to four tickets, Military Retirees, military family members and Department of Defense personnel will be able to receive up to two tickets per ID card. 7:00 p.m. The Imitation Game (PG-13)

7.00 p.m. The initiation

SUNDAY 12/7 2:30 p.m. Big Hero 6 (3-D) (PG)

5:00 p.m. Dumb and Dumber To (PG-13)

7:20 p.m. Ouija (PG-13)

THURSDAY 12/11 7:00 p.m. Fury (R)

FRIDAY 12/12 7:00 p.m. Intersteller

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY 12/5 6:00 p.m. Fury (R)

SATURDAY 12/6

4:00 p.m. Ouija (PG-13)

7:00 p.m. John Wick (R)

SUNDAY 12/7 2:00 p.m. The Book of Life (PG)

THURSDAY 12/11

7:00 p.m. John Wick (R)



My Favorite Photo...

Capt. Mark Manfredi, Navy Region Hawaii chief of staff, took this photo of a basketball game during the recent Special Olympics hosted by Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

How to submit: send your non-posed photo to editor@hookelenews.com.



JBPHH Chapel events planned for December 2014

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam chapels will hold a variety of events celebrating Christmas and New Year's Day. They include:

Catholic services at Hickam Chapel Center

- \bullet Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Immaculate Conception Mass (Holy Day of Obligation).
- Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Community Penance / Reconciliation Service.
- \bullet Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Christmas Eve Family Mass. • Dec. 24, 10 p.m., Christmas Eve Mass.
- Dec. 25, 11 a.m., Christmas Day Mass. • Jan. 1, 11 a.m., Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation).

Catholic services at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel

- Dec. 8 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Immaculate Conception Mass (Holy Day of Obligation).
- Dec. 9, 7 p.m., Community Penance/Reconciliation Service. • Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Christmas Eve Family Mass.
- Dec. 25, 9 a.m., Christmas Day Mass.
- Jan. 1, 9 a.m., Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation).

Protestant services at Hickam Chapels

- Dec. 21, 5 p.m., Children's Christmas Program, Hickam Chapel Center.
- Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Hickam Chapel Center.
- Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Watchnight Service, Hickam Nelles Chapel.

Protestant services at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

• Dec. 19, 7 p.m., Children's Christmas Program. \bullet Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Aloha Christmas Breakfast

For Single Sailors and Airmen

• Dec. 25, 9 to 11 a.m. Hickam Gathering Place, King Hall, building 1856.

For other religious observances, call Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel at 473-3971 and Hickam Chapel Center

JBPHH food service to offer holiday meals Dec. 25

Don Robbins

Editor, Ho'okele

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam food service team will offer special holiday menus on Christmas Day at the Hale Aina Dining Facility and the Silver Dolphin Bistro Galley.

The Hale Aina Dining Facility meal will be offered from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with ala carte pricing. The meal will include appetizers such as shrimp cocktail and assorted nonfat yogurt, soup, salad, vegetables, entrees such as baked ham, roast turkey and boneless rib of beef, gravies and dressings, breads and rolls, assorted desserts and beverages.

The meal is open to all military, retirees and family members.

Galley meal will be served bring exact change to refrom 2 to 4 p.m. and the duce time spent at the price is \$7.70.

The meal will include shrimp cocktail, oven roasted Robert.Pare@navy.mil.

turkey, baked spiral ham with raisin sauce, carved steamship round with au jus, giblet and turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, bread stuffing with sausage, baby red mashed potatoes, baked macaroni and cheese, candied sweet potatoes, glazed baby carrots and green bean casserole.

The Silver Dolphin meal will include assorted hot rolls, fresh salad bar, crab salad and potato salad, assorted pies, cakes and cheesecake. The meal will also include an ice cream bar with assorted toppings, nuts and hard candies, and a Silver Dolphin Bistro holiday cake.

The meal is open to all active duty military, Department of Defense employees, retirees and their families with a valid ID The Silver Dolphin Bistro card. Attendees are asked to cashier stand.

For more information, chicken and wild rice soup, call 473-2948 or email



Tower Lighting festivities to be held Dec. 12

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The 45th Annual Tower Lighting Celebration, a longtime holiday tradition at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, will return Dec. 12. The festivities begin at 4:30 p.m. Patrons can bring lawn chairs or blankets and claim their spot to view the lighting ceremony, which will begin at 7 p.m.

Live entertainment, prize giveaways (including a \$500 holiday shopping spree), food and other activities are planned for the entire family during the celebration.

MWR will set up bounce houses for chil-

dren and holiday crafts. A kid's clinic will allow children to learn to build and create. The event will also include a trampoline demonstration.

The Air Force Band of the Pacific and the Navy's Pacific Fleet Band will perform. Free photos with Santa Claus will be available beginning at 5 p.m.

Parking in the surrounding area will be limited as portions will be cordoned off. MWR will provide free round trip shuttle service from the Hickam BX Garden Shop to the celebration from 4:15 p.m. to the end of the event. For more information, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com.



Joint base to host toy drive

SrA Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Operation liaison of Operation Home-Homefront Hawaii will front Hawaii, said there is hold a holiday toy distribution event from 10 a.m. to 1 during the holiday season, p.m. Dec. 6, at the Earhart especially for those with Community Center located on the Hickam side of joint base. Toys will be given to military members and their children.

Military families who wish to attend will need to arrive early to the event, as the toys will be given away first come, first served. This event is for military service members and their families only.

A national nonprofit, Operation Homefront provides emergency and other financial assistance to the families of service members and wounded warriors.

It also assists military families during difficult financial times by providing food assistance, auto and home repair, vision care, possible — the charity of travel and transportation, others.

moving assistance, essential home items and financial assistance.

Although there is no shortage of assistance needed during the year, Brittney Orton, community a large increase of requests less rank and larger families.

"The expense of the holiday season often impacts the budgets of our most junior enlisted members significantly," said Orton. "For those families with children, parents are often overwhelmed trying to fit the expense of gifts into an already stretched budget. Our Holiday Toy Drive assists military parents in providing presents to their children during tough economic times."

While Operation Homefront provides services and assistance to those in need, Orton said people shouldn't forget about what makes it

MY FAVORITE РНОТО

Do you have a favorite photo? Here is your opportunity to see it featured in Ho'okele.

My favorite photo posed.

Please send information regarding and any interesting details. Include photographer and contact information.

Please send your photos to editor@hookele (aren Spangler, managing editor, at karen.spangler@ navy.mil and Don Robbins, assistant editor, at drobbins@hookele

