



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Class Nardel Gervacio
From the USS Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor survivor Delton "Wally" Walling and Joan Bohl look out at the Battleship Missouri Memorial, symbol of the end of World War II in the Pacific. This year's historic commemoration, "Sound the Alarm," examined how thousands of Americans answered the call to duty in the wake of the attack. From Pearl Harbor and Midway, the U.S. Navy moved across the Pacific until instruments of surrender were signed aboard USS Missouri (BB 63) on Sept. 2, 1945.



Pearl Harbor survivor Allen Bodenlos renders honors at the USS Arizona Memorial during the 72nd Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration. U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro | Photo illustration



'Sound the Alarm:' Hawaii remembers Pearl Harbor attack
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Pearl Harbor survivor Edward Wentzlaff interred in USS Arizona
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'Day of Infamy' remains forever etched in nation's memory
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Celebrities help provide holiday 'glow' at tower lighting
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Chief Flemming's 70 qualifies for Sony Pro Am
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‘Sound the Alarm:’ Hawaii remembers Pearl Harbor attack

MC1 David Kolmel

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

More than 2,500 guests, including Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans, gathered Dec. 7 at Pearl Harbor Visitor Center to commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The remembrance ceremony, hosted by the National Park Service and U.S. Navy, featured the theme “Sound the Alarm,” examining how thousands of Americans answered the call after the attack and how the nation was united behind a common purpose throughout the war.

The keynote speaker was Max Cleland, secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission. Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, was guest speaker.

For Harris, the ceremony was especially poignant since his father was stationed at Pearl Harbor in December 1941 aboard the aircraft carrier USS Lexington, which had set sail just two days before the attack.

“For those who gave the last full measure of devotion for their nation that day, we feel a deep sense of sorrow for the loss of such potential,” said Harris, who took command of the Pacific Fleet in October 2013.

“Yet we are also inspired by their great gift to the world – the gift of freedom itself. They did not go quietly into the night and, along with those who survived, a reluctant nation emerged to fight and ultimately win in World War II,” Harris said. He compared the



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro

Max Cleland, secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, speaks during the 72nd Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. (See additional photos on page A-4, A-5.)

“Greatest Generation” to Americans who responded after the surprise attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 and discussed how our nation must remain vigilant.

“Thankfully, our nation has always been blessed to have strong men and women with exceptional courage who are willing and able to step forward to do whatever it takes to defend America whenever our liberty is in jeopardy,” said Harris.

“Now, as military efforts in Afghanistan draw down, our nation looks to the future, and we emphasize the tremendous importance of the Indo-Asia-Pacific.”

“Ours is a region of rapid growth, not only in population, not only in industry, but

also in competition for scarce resources and in military growth, and I say ‘ours’ deliberately,” Harris said.

“The United States is, and will remain, a Pacific power. But we also remember the warning from those who survived Pearl Harbor, and we are increasing our vigilance accordingly. Today we are focused as we are listening for the sounds of the alarm.”

Cleland echoed Harris’ sentiment about how the “Greatest Generation” shaped the world we live in today.

“For all the Pearl Harbor survivors, thank you for teaching us all how to survive, how not to just to survive but to strive to turn things around, and how to

ultimately thrive in life,” Cleland said. “I am the direct beneficiary of the greatest of the great generation.”

Harris also commended the Pearl Harbor survivors for the enduring legacy they have provided.

“The fact that we can sit here today, in peace, is just another example of the immeasurable debt we owe to all those who served in World War II, both at home and abroad,” Harris said.

“I offer my salute to those of you here today for your commitment to our nation and for not failing when duty called. As the Pacific Fleet commander, I want to assure you that this current generation of warriors has heeded your call. We

remember Pearl Harbor, we are vigilant, and we are ready to fight tonight and win. Not only are we poised to respond to the first notes of the alarm bell, we are also doing everything possible to keep the alarm from sounding in the first place.”

At 7:55 a.m., the exact moment the attack began in 1941, a moment of silence was observed. During the ceremony, the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) rendered honors to the USS Arizona.

Navy provided a rifle salute and members of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band performed morning colors and echo Taps. Wreaths were presented in honor of those who died in the attack and

the men and women who survived.

Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans concluded the ceremony with a “walk of honor” in which military service members and National Park Service men and women formed an honor cordon for them to pass through.

In addition to the ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, the park service conducted a USS Oklahoma Memorial Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance ceremony. The 15th Air Wing also held a ceremony to honor the 189 killed and 303 wounded during the attack at what was then known as Hickam Field.

15th Wing honors Dec. 7 heroes at remembrance ceremony

Story and photo by MC1 Cynthia Clark

Defense Media Activity, Hawaii News Bureau

Personnel from the 15th Wing reflected on the 72nd anniversary of the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks on Hickam Field during a ceremony Dec. 7 at Atterbury Circle, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

In attendance at the ceremony were a group of men who survived the attacks on Hickam Field that infamous day.

Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, reminded those who attended of a quote from President Franklin D. Roosevelt made in response to the attacks in 1941. “Always will we remember the character of the onslaught against us,” Roosevelt said.

“I am in total awe to be in your presence this morning,” Roscoe said to the guests of honor.

“This is just an incredible moment. Today marks the anniversary of a date that really changed the course of world history. Seventy-two years ago, two waves of attacks not only hit here at Hickam Field, but [also at] Pearl Harbor, Ewa Beach, Ford Island, Wheeler, Bellows,



Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Andrew Kowalski is welcomed by local scout troops to the Dec. 7, 1941 Remembrance Ceremony held Dec. 7 at Atterbury Circle.

Kaneohe. It literally was an attack on the island of Oahu.”

While the honored guests were presented with flags, the emcee shared their personal stories of that day 72 years ago. Roscoe talked about how they survived “hell in paradise,” saying, “it’s more than just a story. They keep those who sacrificed alive, they keep us connected, and allow us

to really remember that fateful day,” he said.

One story was of retired Master Sgt. Millard Rice, a 95-year-old veteran who made it back to Hickam this year for the first time since 1941. When Rice, a private in 1941, failed a footlocker inspection on Dec. 6, he had no idea that mistake would save his life.

As his punishment for failing the inspection, he was ordered to clean latrines. While cleaning a latrine doesn’t really sound like an important, life-saving task, it was for Private Rice as he normally would have been in the mess hall at 0800 on a Sunday morning having his breakfast. That mess hall was bombed and ended in sham-

bles, with only a few survivors.

Roscoe said that remembering the past is important not just for service members, but also for citizens of the United States of America. While every survivor of that day has a story, according to Roscoe, it is important that we never forget. “It is [by] remembering and understanding their character that we define our own,” he said.

Another survivor, now Retired Master Sgt. Ken Ford, was on a layover en route to Alaska and was in the shower when he heard the first shots fired. His only means of cover was a desk where he stayed until he felt it was safe to leave.

Later on that day, Ford was able to be assigned a weapon, which he took to the beach at Fort Kamehameha and guarded Hickam Field in the event the Japanese decided to invade with ground forces.

He said that it doesn’t matter where you are when rounds are inbound, it’s how you rise to the occasion and fight back.

While the main focus of Dec. 7, 1941 is the attack on Pearl Harbor, the men who were honored at Atterbury Circle serve as a reminder that bravery and duty to country could be found all over the island of Oahu.

Commentary

‘Living Monuments’ give us inspiring perspective

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

Many of you, like me, had the opportunity last week to meet “living monuments” – our Pearl Harbors survivors – here for the 2013 Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremony. Meeting with these World War II veterans is something I will remember for the rest of my life.

These gentlemen inspire us, especially when we consider what they lived through, how they fought for us, and how they carry themselves today.



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

They don't complain about wartime conditions or how

their lives were changed in the early and mid-1940s.

Consider what they went through. They watched shipmates die. Many of them were injured in their march across the Pacific. Imagine spending four years away from home, 120 days at sea, constantly ready for battle, not being able to communicate with loved ones for months at a time, and making \$10 a month in sea pay!

Our benefits and living conditions aboard ships, in barracks and in family housing have improved immensely since the warriors of World War II stood the watch.

Meeting Pearl Harbor survivors and other WWII

veterans over the past two weeks reminds me of the importance of our professional associations and personal relationships, not only with the past and our heritage but also here in the present.

The ties with each other continue to build speed of trust, accountability and mutual understanding in battle – key intangibles that are hard to define but easy to distinguish.

Admirals Chester Nimitz, Bull Halsey and Ray Spruance were lifetime friends, colleagues and shipmates who forged a strong and trusting partnership.

Leaders on the waterfront and ashore here in the

Pacific are building similar teams and teamwork.

In Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn, Adm. Harry Harris, now commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Adm. Sam Locklear, now commander of U.S. Pacific Command, worked together to liberate Libya and preserve peace in the Middle East and northern Africa. They built strategic relationships with NATO and the Arab League, delivered humanitarian assistance to the civilian population, and supported rebels fighting a totalitarian regime.

Today, this successful relationship continues in the strategic rebalance to Asia-Pacific. That commit-

ment is at the heart of our mission.

Everyone at all levels in our Navy can build those kinds of relationships and bonds that make us stronger. We can all share in the pure joy of service to our country, dedicated to the mission.

We are all part of a chain of veterans, leaders and shipmates who have served in Asia-Pacific. We serve today to prevent future generations and ourselves from experiencing the sacrifices and hardships faced by those who came before us.

Through warfighting readiness and forward operations we can win before we have to fight.

Kids learn of duty, sacrifice, loss in World War II

Bill Doughty

From Navy Reads Blog

Louise Borden's “Across the Blue Pacific: A World War II Story,” illustrated by WWII-era Army-Air Force veteran and artist Robert Andrew Parker, is the story of how duty, sacrifice and loss can affect a nation, a

neighborhood and a child. The effects can last a lifetime.

Borden's story is told with a child's innocence and is based on true events. It recounts the story of the author's uncle Theodore “Ted” Walker who graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1941, served aboard the light cruis-

er USS Memphis (CL-13) in the south Atlantic, and then served fatefully as executive officer in the submarine USS Albacore (SS-218), deployed from Midway to the western Pacific.

Ted Walker and his submarine crew never came home.

The National Park Service (NPS) and Pacific Historic Parks – partnering with the Department of Education, YMCA, and other groups – are conducting a read aloud program for 135 schools across Hawaii to tell the story and ensure history is preserved and understood by all generations.

According to a press release from NPS and PHP:

“The story, ‘Across the Blue Pacific: A World War II Story,’ follows fourth grader Molly Crenshaw who is given

a classroom assignment of writing a letter to servicemen overseas. Molly immediately knows who she will write to – her next door neighbor Ted Walker, who is stationed aboard the USS Albacore. The story talks about the importance of appreciating the sacrifices made by the military.

“As part of this year's program, students will write letters to military personnel, which will then be delivered to active duty military through the U.S. Navy.”

Pearl Harbor survivor Delton “Wally” Walling shared his story at a Dec. 6 Read Aloud at Pauoa Elementary with fourth and fifth graders as NPS ranger Falynn Medeiros read and showed the book. Walling couldn't enlist in the Navy because of a disfigured finger

so he had his finger surgically removed in order to join.

He gave a firsthand account to students about the commitment, courage and consequences of the War in the Pacific.

The National Park Service has posted several real life letters written during World War II by civilians and military personnel for parents to read to their children. For access and to learn more about the read aloud program go, to www.nps.gov/valr/forkids.

“The National Park Service, with funding from Pacific Historic Parks, also offers a year-round distance learning program for students and teachers from around the world,” according to an NPS release.

“Witness To History is a free program that utilizes

videoconferencing technology to take students where visitors cannot go, bringing the sites and stories of Pearl Harbor to children and adults unable to visit Oahu.

“The program includes a Pearl Harbor survivor series where participants can see and hear Pearl Harbor Survivors share their personal testimonies of what they experienced on that fateful day. The interpretive ranger series shows a video of a USS Arizona underwater dive while a National Park ranger provides a voice-over interpretive lesson. The program ends with a student and educator question-and-answer session.”

(For more information or to schedule a free Witness To History videoconference, contact 808-954-8744 or 808-4428).

Diverse Views



What is the worst Christmas present you've ever received?



2nd Lt. Jacob McCorkle
7th Engineer Dive Team

“I don't think I've ever received a particularly terrible present. I guess I've been lucky with my Christmas presents.”

Lt. j.g. Savith Chauhan
USS Jacksonville



“I don't celebrate Christmas. But the worst gift I ever received was moldy chocolate.”



Staff Sgt. Jaimie Hill
65th Airlift Squadron

“I'd have to say soap. Every year for Christmas my step-dad's family would give me soap...I mean, what are you trying to say? You stink, Merry Christmas?”

AWV1 Laquain Jordan
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



“I've never really received a bad Christmas gift.”



Senior Master Sgt. Michael Wilson
HQ PACAF

“Pajamas, every year from my mom. She finally figured out I don't sleep in pajamas. Always loved her for the thought. That's what really counts!”

STG2 Remy Baugher
USS Michael Murphy



“An ugly sweater. I was about 6 or 7. It was a purple, ugly sweater with reindeer jumping around that my grandmother thought was awesome. I had to wear it to school one day.”



Darren Ohashi
HQ PACAF

“During a unit Christmas party during my time on active duty, we had a white-elephant exchange. I ended up getting an old pair of slippers.”

QMSN Tony Asheford
USS Paul Hamilton



“Socks, I guess.”



Tech. Sgt. Terrell Mickens
HQ PACAF

“I cannot recall a Christmas where I received a bad gift. I guess a gift comes from the heart, so I am pretty fortunate for all the gifts I have received.”

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

Rear Adm. Williams reads to students

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, reads to students at Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School, during a Christmas Community Read Aloud at the school on Dec. 9.

Photo by Lt. Jeffrey Ross



Bomber wrecked during Dec. 7 attack



A wrecked Army Air Corps B-17C bomber sits near hangar 5 at Hickam Air Field, following the end of the Japanese raid on Dec. 7, 1941. This plane, piloted by Capt. Raymond T. Swenson, was one of those that arrived during the attack after flying in from California. It was hit by a strafing attack after landing and burned in half.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, National Archives collection

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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The sun rises over USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Missouri Memorial on the 72nd Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration. Pearl Harbor survivors and distinguished guests visited the USS Arizona Memorial for the presentation of wreaths and floral tributes. More than 2,500 guests, including Pearl Harbor survivors and other veterans, attended the National Park Service and U.S. Navy-hosted joint memorial ceremony at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. This year's theme was "Sound the Alarm," examining how thousands of Americans answered their nation's call after the attack and how the nation was united behind a common purpose throughout the war.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tierra Fulgham
(Above) Members of the Commander Navy Region Hawaii Ceremonial Guard prepare to parade the colors during a memorial service at the USS Oklahoma Memorial on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

(Below) NPS rangers and students from the Navy Hale Keiki School present wreaths during the commemoration. U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Juliann Chavaro



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

A Hickam Honor Guard member presents a U.S. flag to World War II veteran, Col. (ret.) Roy Bright, at the Dec. 7 Remembrance Ceremony at Atterbury Circle on Dec. 7. Bright was a B-17 navigator assigned to Hickam Field at the time of the attack. At 99 years-old, Bright has never missed a Dec. 7 Remembrance Ceremony since 1946. The ceremony paid tribute to the 72nd anniversary of the attack on Hickam Field on Dec. 7, 1941, that claimed the lives of 190 Airmen and civilians.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Honor Guard members raise the U.S. flag at the Dec. 7 Remembrance Ceremony at Atterbury Circle on Dec. 7. The flag was flown at half-staff in honor of the 190 Airmen and civilians who lost their lives in the 1941 attack Hickam Field.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan

Everett Hyland, a survivor of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, attends the 72nd Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.



More than 50 Pearl Harbor survivors were honored during the 72nd anniversary commemoration.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Rose Forest



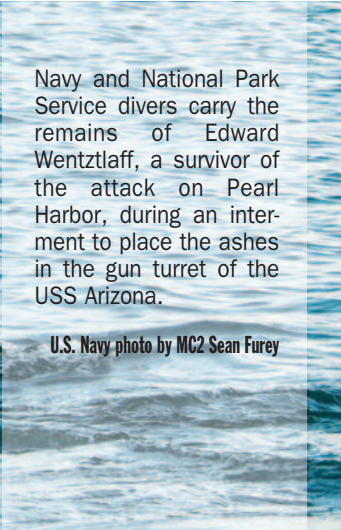
U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Rose Forest

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.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan

A traditional Hawaiian blessing is given during the 72nd Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration.



Pearl Harbor survivor Edward Wentzlaff interred in USS Arizona

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

The ashes of Pearl Harbor survivor Aviation Ordnance-man Chief Warrant Officer Edward Wentzlaff were interred aboard the sunken remains of the USS Arizona at a ceremony held Dec. 7 at the USS Arizona Memorial.

Wentzlaff was born Nov. 16, 1917 in Nicollet, Minn. He joined the Navy in 1937, hoping to learn a trade, and was assigned to the USS Arizona the following year.

He was waiting for a Sunday church service to begin when the first Japanese warplanes appeared in the sky overhead on Dec. 17, 1941. When “general quarters” was sounded he rushed to his battle station. It was a dangerous place to be, as he was exposed and vulnerable to direct attack.

However, he credited his decision to go to his battle station instead of going below deck when the attack began with saving his life as within minutes a bomb hit an ammunition magazine, sinking the Arizona.

When the word was passed to abandon ship, Wentzlaff swam to the admiral’s barge, cut it loose, and helped secure it to the crew’s gangway. But his work

for the day was not done.

“Despite the Japanese planes strafing the ship and the burning oil enveloping the Arizona, Edward went back,” said Daniel Martinez, historian at the USS Arizona Memorial. “He assisted in the care of the wounded and the men who were badly burned.”

During the war, Wentzlaff served on the USS Yorktown and participated in the Battle of the Coral Sea. He would later serve in Virginia, training thousands of aviators and ordnance-men until the end of the war.

Capt. Larry Scruggs, deputy commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, who also spoke at the ceremony, described Wentzlaff as a man who “never wavered in his faith of his spirit that day.”

“When he abandoned ship, he still had the courage to pull shipmates from the burning harbor, amidst the withering fire of machine guns, bombs and torpedoes,” said Scruggs.

“It was this type of bravery and selflessness that all our Pearl Harbor survivors share. His story describes so humbly the dedication of his generation.”

After the war, Wentzlaff returned to Minnesota, settling near Milaca where he farmed for most of his life. He also served as PTA president, school board



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey

A member of the Navy Region Hawaii Ceremonial Guard presents a flag in honor of Pearl Harbor survivor Edward Wentzlaff to his daughter Mary Flock during an interment at the USS Arizona Memorial.

member and mayor of Butterfield, Minn., commander and lifetime member of VFW Post No. 9607 in Butterfield, Watonwan County commissioner and Milaca Legion member. He had five children, seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

However, the events of Dec. 7 were never far from his mind, and Wentzlaff made more than 10 trips to Pearl Harbor.

“It was important to him to honor those who went before him,” said Wentzlaff’s daughter, Mary Flock, who flew in from Minnesota for the ceremony.

Wentzlaff had long intended to be interred at the Arizona.

“He had planned this for over 30 years,” said Flock. “It was his last wish to join his shipmates.”

The ceremony held on Dec. 7 was a rare event. There have been fewer than 40 interments of remains on the USS Arizona. The Navy began interring and scattering ashes of Dec. 7 survivors at Pearl Harbor in the late 1980s. Only survivors of the Arizona and Utah may return after death to their ships.

“These are the only burial services like this in the world,” said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison.

Services were led by chaplain Capt. Brent Scott from U.S. Pacific Fleet.

After a moment of silence, Wentzlaff’s remains were taken down to the Arizona by Navy and National Park Service divers and his ashes were placed in one of the gun turrets. The ceremony ended with a rifle salute and a flyover as a bugler played “Taps.” An American flag was presented to his family.

“The U.S. Navy and the National Park Service did a wonderful job, and we really appreciate their efforts,” said Flock.

“I know this was a great honor for my father. Everything that happened during his interment ceremony was wonderful. It was sad but it was phenomenal.”



U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Sean Furey

(Left) The Navy Region Hawaii Ceremonial Guard folds an American flag in honor of Pearl Harbor Survivor Edward Wentzlaff during an interment at the USS Arizona Memorial. (Right) The Navy Region Hawaii Ceremonial Guard performs in honor of Pearl Harbor survivor Edward Wentzlaff during an interment at the USS Arizona Memorial.

Hickam Airman receives honors for late grandfather

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Andrew Shepherd accepted a folded flag in honor of his late grandfather, Marion Shepherd, during the Dec. 7 remembrance ceremony held at Atterbury Circle at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Shepherd, who is assigned to the 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at joint base, had the unique opportunity of attending the remembrance ceremony on behalf of his family and being a participant – an experience he said left him “utterly speechless.”

“Today was different than I expected it to be,” he said. “I knew it would be emotional, but it was almost hard for me to keep my composure at times. There are really no words to describe the moment. Being able to participate gave me a chance to honor my grandfather and show my gratitude to him and his comrades on a personal level, and I’m thankful for having had the opportunity,” Shepherd said.

Marion Shepherd was assigned to Hickam Field after enlisting in the Army Air Corps and survived both the Dec. 7 attack on the base and the Battle of Midway in 1942. He passed away at the age of 89 when Andrew Shepherd was nine years old, but not before leaving a lasting impression on his grandson who enlisted in the Air Force nearly 10 years later.



Marion Shepherd, the grandfather of Tech. Sgt. Andrew Shepherd, who is assigned to the 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, was enlisted in the Army Air Corps at Hickam Field at the time of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on the base.

“I’d always thought my grandfather had an interesting story, and it definitely did influence me joining the military and volunteering to come to Hawaii,” said Shepherd.

“He’s definitely remembered as a hero in my family, and whenever I drive to and from work and I see the hangar he worked in or the old consolidated barracks he lived in, it’s a reminder that grandpa was here. It’s a very sobering moment, a very cool memory,” Andrew Shepherd said.

Shepherd said he found out about the annual ceremony, which pays tribute to the fallen heroes and survivors of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Hickam Field, shortly after permanently changing station to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in August. Given



Tech. Sgt. Andrew Shepherd, (right), 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, renders a salute before being presented a flag by a Hickam Honor Guard member during the Dec. 7 remembrance ceremony held at Atterbury Circle at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

his family’s history, he was eager to get involved with the event.

“I was raised in a very patriotic family,” he said. “I remember grandpa’s patriotism. He had a flag at the house he would raise and lower every day and his medals were on the wall and I think that was passed down to me through my father. Days like this reinforce that patriotism for me.”

The Wyoming native said though he learned of his grandfather’s past when he was a child, it wasn’t until growing up

and joining the military himself that he gained a full appreciation for his grandpa’s service.

“Grandpa left quite the legacy in our family, and dad was really proud of me for joining the Air Force,” he said.

“I’ll never forget the first time I deployed he told me that he knew his dad would have been proud of me and that made me feel pretty good. I was proud because I knew what I was doing was bigger than myself, and I was honored to be doing something that would have made someone

I always looked up to be proud of me.”

In addition to honoring Marion Shepherd, the ceremony recognized four Hickam Field attack survivors and a host of family members who were in attendance on behalf of their loved ones who were killed in action or deceased. Shepherd said that was the best part of the ceremony for him.

“The symbolism of seeing them present the flags to the survivors and the families was overwhelming,” he said. “Those flags represent everything we

stand for, and it was a very emotional moment for me.”

Shepherd said it was surreal being able to talk with men who had worked with his grandpa when he was stationed at Hickam.

“It was awe-inspiring talking to guys who had worked with grandpa,” he said. “I met a widow whose husband was on the same flight my grandpa got shot on during the Battle of Midway and that to me is what these types of events are all about. I’m proud to know his memory is still being honored even though he’s since passed on.”

Though this was Shepherd’s first opportunity to participate in a remembrance ceremony, his family members are actively involved in events and Shepherd said he is a firm believer that it is necessary to make sure people always remember.

“Everyone remembers Pearl Harbor because so many lives were lost, but it’s unfortunate that most people don’t remember the other places that were attacked and the other service members that were lost,” he said.

“These types of events are necessary because it’s our small way of showing that we remember them and to express our gratitude for their sacrifices. Some of these people gave everything. They gave their lives, and there’s no real way that we can ever repay that other than to keep honoring their memories and remembering their sacrifices,” he said.

Ho`okele to resume Jan. 10, 2014

Today is the last issue of Ho`okele for 2013. We will be taking a three-week hiatus. During the break, our publisher, Honolulu Star-Advertiser, will publish joint military issues. The first issue of Ho`okele in 2014 will be published Jan. 10.



(Left) Capt. Lawrence Scruggs, deputy commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, speaks during a sunset ceremony to honor those who perished during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island. USS Utah (AG 16) was sunk during the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey



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

Col. Virginia Garner, 15th Medical Group commander, places a lei at the gravestone of Cpl. Vincent J. Kechner Dec. 6 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). Kechner was killed at Hickam Field during the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks on Oahu military installations.



U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth

2013 Miss Hawaii Crystal Lee talks with Pearl Harbor survivor Michael "Mickey" Ganitch over lunch at the Silver Dolphin Bistro, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Dec. 5.

‘Day of Infamy’ remains forever etched in nation’s memory

Jim Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii
Historian

There are only a few days in American history that serve as such seminal moments that the mere mention of the calendar date can stand alone with little to no explanation. Dec. 7, 1941 certainly qualifies as one of those dates.

At that moment in time, the Japanese Empire launched an attack on the island of Oahu that left much of America’s military power in the Pacific shattered, including the crippling of the Navy’s fleet of battleships in Pearl Harbor. With the temporary loss of an American seaborne striking force, the Japanese military was able to conquer most of South-East Asia in the hopes of establishing a vast empire that would withstand an Allied counter attack.

Exactly one year later on the morning of Dec. 7, 1942, a full 12 months after the attack, an impromptu ceremony was held on the wreckage of the Arizona.

Though the war was far from over and the cleanup of Pearl still ongoing, the memorial service was attended by both naval and civilian personnel and honored the loss of the 2,400 lives lost on the “day of infamy,” reminding everyone of why this war had to be fought and had to be won.

This spontaneous inclination by military and civilian alike to recognize the Arizona wreckage as a memorial to the ongoing Pacific struggle was not limited to those who plumbed the depths of her wreckage.

Capt. T.C. Miller, a chaplain for the 14th Naval District, summarized the sentiment prevalent at the time with words that would prove prophetic. He was certain that “Pearl Harbor



Sailors on Ford Island look on as the Mahan-class destroyer USS Shaw (DD 373) explodes in the background after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The combined images contains photographs taken during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and the same present day location as the event.



(Above left) A view of the historic Ford Island control tower: then and now. (Above right) The battleship USS California (BB 44) burns in the foreground as the battleship USS Arizona (BB 39) burns in the background after the initial attack on Pearl Harbor.

would become a post-war shrine—a place to which pilgrimages would be made—and that either by an act of Congress or through some other power, a great memorial would be established here.”

In 1950 the Navy took the lead when Adm. Arthur Radford, the commander of the Pacific Fleet, ordered that American flag be raised daily on a flagpole attached to the wreckage and later that a platform be constructed where small ceremonies

could be held, thereby creating the first memorial on the USS Arizona.

Radford’s wooden platform was utilized until August 1956 when it was determined that Arizona’s hull was weakening due to weathering and was no longer safe. Following the construction of the formal memorial structure, families and friends continued to visit in increasing numbers, and ceremonies were held on the new memorial spanning the wreckage.

A new chapter was reached in 1966 with the 25th anniversary of the Dec. 7 attack.

The survivors, a key constituent of the events surrounding Pearl Harbor, had remained relatively silent in the 25 years that had passed since the “day of infamy.” Throughout those years, the generation that had been eyewitnesses of the attack had fought the war, gone home, started careers, raised families and generally moved into a sem-

blance of normalcy.

But with the passing of time, those Sailors, Marines, Soldiers and civilians began to reflect on the life-shattering memories that never quite left them.

Each new milestone year grew into a larger event as the survivors aged and the nation sought to honor their increasingly depleting numbers. High visibility speakers marked many of the events, such as President George H. W. Bush in 1991, Adm. Vernon Clark, chief of

naval operations in 2001, and Tom Brokaw’s tribute to the “Greatest Generation” in 2006.

Through the years, Pearl Harbor Day, as it has now become known, has taken on a far greater significance to its survivors and the nation. Ever-increasing numbers of Americans visit the memorial year after year with the number now standing at approximately 1.7 million visitors annually.

Rear Adm. Michael Vitale, the Navy Region Hawaii commander from 2004-2006, likened its importance as a national shrine to that of Gettysburg, something far beyond a merely regional matter.

In June 2005, the Navy and the National Park Service met to discuss how best to combine manpower, expertise and resources to honor the memory of those lost on Dec. 7, 1941 and to further educate the public on the seminal nature of that date.

Since then, the combined ceremony of Pearl Harbor Day has become the nation’s primary observance of the event that launched the U.S. into World War Two and inspired the nation to victory with the phrase “Remember Pearl Harbor.”

Today many Americans ask, “Where were you on Sept. 11, 2001?” With fewer and fewer people able to ask the same about Dec. 7, 1941, it becomes imperative that we remember, honor and learn from those who experienced the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

This Dec. 7 marked the 72nd commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The theme for the event was “Sounding the Alarm.” Max Cleland, secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, former U.S. senator and disabled Vietnam War veteran, was keynote speaker.

Service members re-enlist on ‘Mighty Mo’

**McNeil Wilson
Communications**

Twenty-seven service members of the armed forces re-enlisted onboard the retired Battleship Missouri Memorial, the battleship where World War II ended.

The special joint re-enlistment ceremony, held in partnership with the Battleship Missouri Memorial, took place Dec. 7 on the forward main deck under the Missouri’s gun turret one, offering an opportunity for the participants to look toward the USS Arizona Memorial as they recited their oaths.

“Our deepest appreciation and gratitude goes to these service members and their families for recommitting their service to America’s armed forces and the preservation of our nation’s freedom,” said Michael A. Carr, president and chief operating officer of the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

“We remember all those who were serving in Pearl

Harbor 72 years ago and honor those who are following in their footsteps.”

Among the 27 armed forces personnel taking part in the reenlistment ceremony was Chief Master Sgt. Paul Koester, the Air Force’s oldest current active-duty member. A 39-year veteran, Koester’s military career spans from the Vietnam Conflict to Operation New Dawn in Iraq. The Dec. 7 ceremony marked his final re-enlistment.

Each re-enlisting service member participating in the ceremony was invited to fly his or her own National Ensign above the Battleship Missouri Memorial and received a commemorative flag certificate from the USS Missouri Memorial Association, caretaker of the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Rear Adm. Alma Grocki, deputy chief of staff for fleet maintenance for the U.S. Pacific Fleet, officiated at the ceremony.

Construction of the USS

Missouri (BB-63), the last battleship ever built for America, began in the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Jan. 6, 1941, 11 months before the attack. The “Mighty Mo” was launched on Jan. 29, 1944 and sent to protect America’s freedom in the war’s major battles of the Pacific Theater.

World War II ended and peace was restored aboard the USS Missouri on Sept. 2, 1945 when Imperial Japan surrendered to the allied forces. The Missouri’s famed “surrender deck” can be viewed by visitors to the battleship.

Since opening on Jan. 29, 1999 as the Battleship Missouri Memorial, military ceremonies have been conducted aboard the Mighty Mo on an almost daily basis, including re-enlistments, promotions, retirements and change of commands for personnel serving in all armed forces branches. The Missouri has hosted more than 800 military ceremonies in 2013.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Katherine Hofman

Rear Adm. Alma Grocki, deputy chief of staff for fleet maintenance for the U.S. Pacific Fleet, re-enlists service members during a mass re-enlistment aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial on Ford Island.



U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Austin Kim

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Steven Cholearka from USS Lake Erie (CG 70) places a flag on an unknown service member’s grave in remembrance of the Pearl Harbor attack.

USS Lake Erie Sailors honor fallen heroes

Ensign Natalie Schimelpfenig

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

Hawaii and the nation pause each year on Dec. 7 to honor those who fought and died to defend freedom during the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941. Sailors from USS Lake Erie (CG 70) took a special hike to National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) on Dec. 6 to pay their respects to heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Sailors arrived at the cemetery early in the morning to place flags at the head of gravesites, recognizing the unknown Sailors who died in the attack of Pearl Harbor and other heroes of World

War II. The mood was somber and reflective as Lake Erie’s Sailors passed through the memorial.

Navy Counselor 1st Class Cyrus Irani organized the event with the support of his fellow first class petty officers.

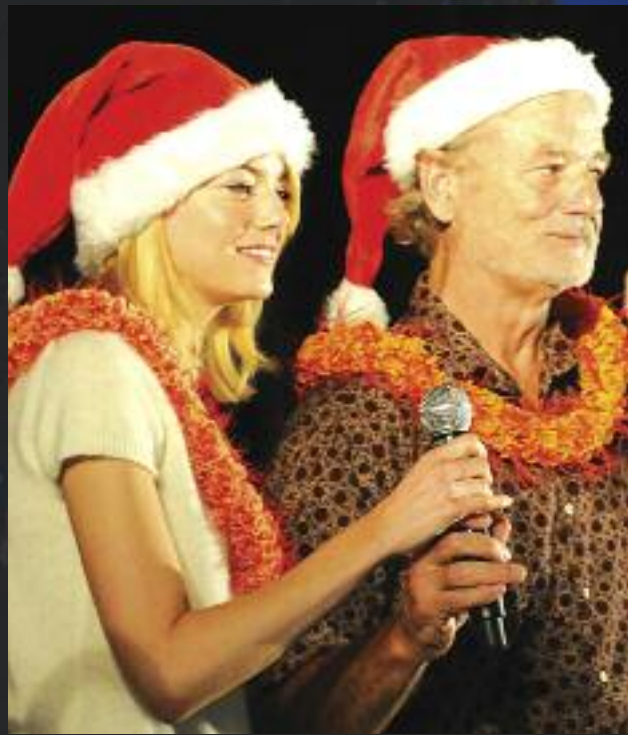
“Walking around the memorial really brought it home that our job is dangerous but still worth fighting for,” said Information Specialist 1st Class Philip Nelson.

“It’s important to honor those that sacrificed so much for us, and I appreciate even these small opportunities to show our gratitude and admiration for their dedication.”

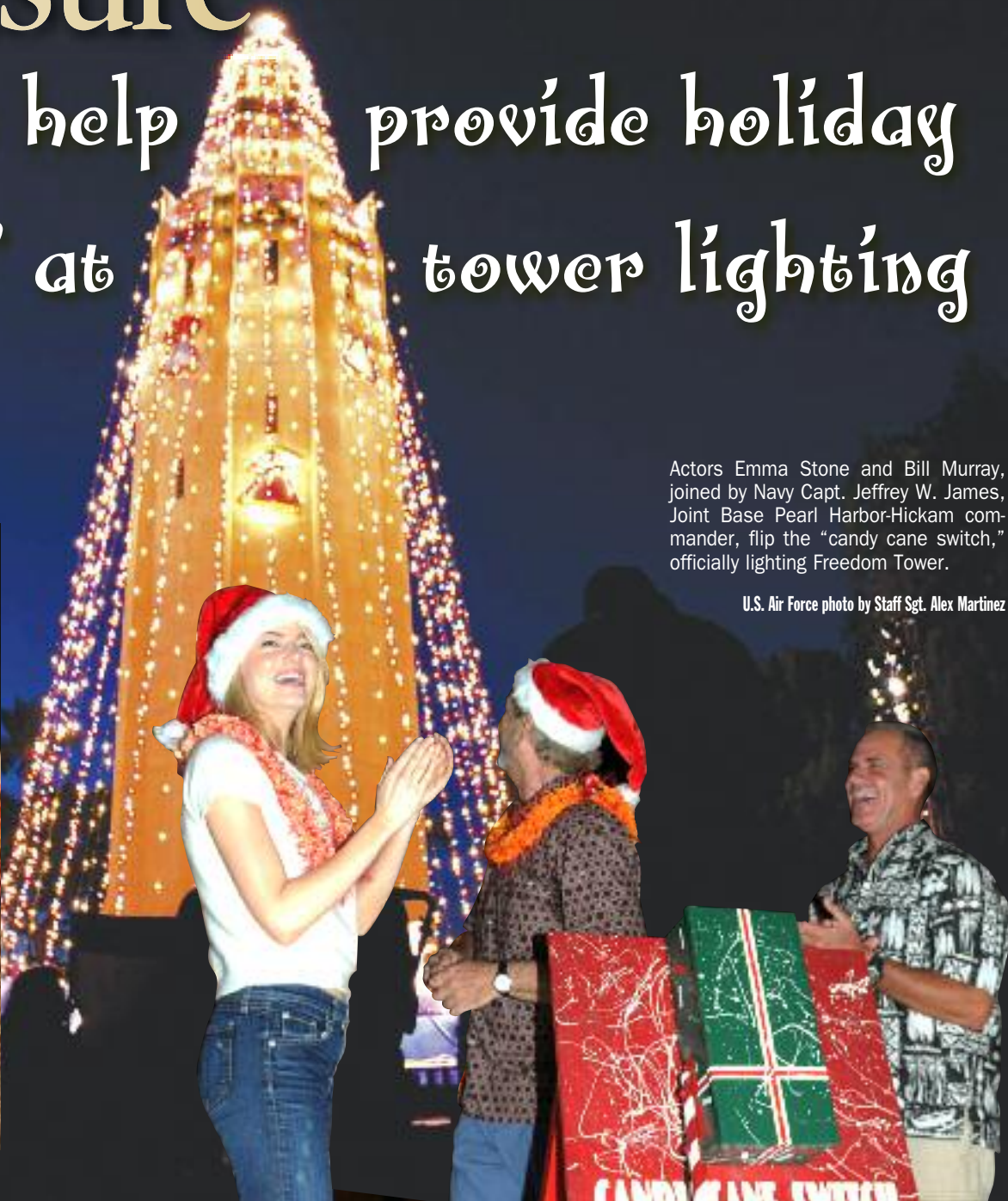
Lake Erie, with a crew of 352 Sailors, is commanded by Capt. John S. Banigan.

Life&Leisure

Celebrities help provide holiday 'glow' at tower lighting



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



Actors Emma Stone and Bill Murray, joined by Navy Capt. Jeffrey W. James, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander, flip the "candy cane switch," officially lighting Freedom Tower.

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



MWR Marketing photo



MWR Marketing photo



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

Emily McNulty and Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Stars were out for the 44th annual Tower Lighting celebration held Dec. 6 at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Freedom Tower, including special guests Emma Stone and Bill Murray.

Stone and Murray, two of the actors who have been filming on the joint base for an untitled film by Cameron Crowe, were on hand to flip the switch to start the tower lighting.

"Hello, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. We are so honored to be here tonight to light up the tree," Stone said. "Thank you for your flexibility, and your teamwork and your support, because we're having the best time."

Bill Murray agreed.

"We've had a wonderful welcome here in Hawaii, and the people have been so gracious. I'm very happy for you, that if you have to be posted somewhere that's not your hometown, that you've ended up in Hawaii," Murray said.

Families attending the celebration were able to enjoy free photos with Santa, free hot chocolate and cookies, two pools of "snow" provided by the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center to play in, crafts, bounce houses and more. The tower will stay lit until the end of December.

While they awaited the lighting of the tower, the Air Force Band of the Pacific and Aidan James, a young ukulele player, performed holiday and popular music.

"Holiday spirit and excitement was in the air, and Aidan James and the Air Force Band of the Pacific dazzled the audiences," said Lara Katine, MWR special events director.

"It's a good place to get everyone together safely and have fun. We always attend the Tower Lighting celebration and are looking forward to see how our two and four-year-olds will react to the lighting tonight," said Amanda Andrews, a Navy spouse.

Mike Perry, active duty Navy, said he liked how the event was set up for his kids to have fun.

"They're somewhere, running around with mom. I don't expect to see them until the lights come on," Perry said.

The bounce houses are what his kids were most excited about, Perry added.

Retired Army Master Sgt. Pat McMullen attended with his wife and their young son.

McMullen said his family was looking forward to, "mainly the (tower) lights coming on, that's the main event and Santa Claus. That's what my wife said she wanted to come for."

"We are giving our patrons a free professional picture with Santa. Patrons can download the pictures on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at www.photos.greatlifehawaii.com. We really enjoy providing these pictures," said Jeff Harris, MWR marketing director.

Tracy Sullivan, an Air Force spouse, attended the tower lighting for the fourth year in a row.

"I have always loved this event. This has always been one of my favorite things to do since we've been here," Sullivan said.

Sullivan added that her kids really enjoyed themselves and were happy to see Saint Nick.

"We were a little worried that we weren't going to see Santa. This is the latest we've actually come but we made it, so it was good. I love the tower lighting. I know it's kind of cheesy, but this really is one of our most favorite things to do. It's a great thing. I love it," Sullivan said.



Senior Airman Aaron Kusterer (left), guitarist, and Master Sgt. Lara Murdzia (right) vocalist, with the Hana Hou! Rock Band perform holiday classics. Singer and ukulele musician Aidan James (middle) also performed. U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Alex Martinez

Hot Boyz beats JPAC in overtime to keep crown

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The year of Morale, Welfare and Recreation intramural sports at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam ended in the same way that it closed in 2012.

For the second consecutive season, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Hot Boyz topped the competition in flag football by beating Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command (JPAC), 28-21, in overtime on Dec. 11 to become the first repeat champions in base flag football. The showdown took place at Ward Field.

Tied at 21-21 at the end of regulation, the Hot Boyz took the first series in overtime and broke the deadlock on a clutch fourth-down pass from quarterback Operations Specialist 2nd Class Solomon Pulu to Marine Sgt. J.R. Martin for a touchdown before converting the extra point for the 28-21 lead.

Looking to answer, JPAC took the ball and got down to the one-yard line by covering 19 yards in three plays.

However, unlike the Hot Boyz, JPAC could not punch it in on fourth down and the game came to a close.

“I’m surprised because talent wise, I’ll admit it, it’s not as great as it was last year,” Pulu said. “But we just got everybody together and had fun. That’s all that it was about.”

While smiles covered the faces of the entire Hot Boyz team at the end of the game, there were no visible signs of joy after Pulu opened the game by throwing an interception to JPAC defensive back Sgt. 1st Class Craig Prouty.

The pick seemed to energize JPAC as the team, led by quarterback Master Sgt. Rick June, took



Marine Sgt. J.R. Martin leaps up and beats three Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command (JPAC) players to score the winning touchdown for Commander, United States Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Hot Boyz. The Hot Boyz beat JPAC, 28-21, in overtime to capture their second consecutive base intramural flag football championship.

the ball at its own six-yard line and promptly marched down to the Hot Boyz 14 before June hooked up with Prouty on fourth down to get on the scoreboard

first at 6-0.

After falling behind, the Hot Boyz came up with a drive of their own as Pulu needed only six plays to move the chains from their own

15 to the JPAC 17.

Then on the very next play, Pulu completed a pass to Electronics Technician 2nd Class Michael Robinson who took it in for a 6-6 tie.

The Hot Boyz converted on their point after touchdown to go out in front at 7-6.

Although JPAC had to switch quarterbacks on their second possession of the game, the team didn’t miss a beat as Department of Defense civilian Adrain Peay replaced June.

Starting at the JPAC 15, Peay took only three plays to break midfield, and then he finished off the drive by running in the final nine yards on a keeper to retake the lead at 12-7.

However, with Pulu now warmed up, the Hot Boyz QB cashed in on his second touchdown of the night on pass to Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Deville Warner on a drive took only four plays.

Another PAT conversion and the Hot Boyz stormed back out in front at 14-12.

JPAC did manage to get within striking distance on the final drive of the half, but ran out of time on the Hot Boyz two-yard line.

After the break, JPAC allowed another golden opportunity to slip away when the team’s drive to the Hot Boyz 16-yard line ended on a miscue.

Facing second and goal at the 16, Peay completed a pass to June inside the 10, but the quarterback turned receiver lost grip of the ball and it bounced out of the back of the end zone for a turnover.

Seeing an opportunity to seize control of the game, Pulu quickly directed the Hot Boyz downfield to the JPAC nine-yard line on five plays.

Then facing fourth down, Pulu went to his favorite receiver for the past three years and lobbed

an alley oop to Martin who jumped up and grabbed the toss for six.

Converting the PAT for the third time, the Hot Boyz took a 21-12 lead with less than seven minutes left to play.

With time winding down, Peay calmly took control and went on a 65-yard drive that ended on a 14-yard touchdown pass from Peay to June.

Then with their backs against the wall, JPAC went for the three-point PAT and got it to tie the game at 21-21 before losing in overtime.

Martin, who was the receiver on the Hot Boyz final two touchdowns, said with the game on the line, he asked for the ball.

“I just feel like Pulu was trying to get everybody involved,” said Martin, who caught the game-winning pass against three JPAC defenders. “It ain’t no I in team, but with the game on the line, I told him to give me the ball and let me do what I do.”

Pulu said that knowing what Martin is capable of doing, he quickly agreed with his receiver.

“That’s why we call him Megatron,” Pulu said. “You get the ball to Megatron in crunch time. That’s my bread and butter. If I ever get in trouble, I just put it up there and he go get it.”

Peay said that although JPAC fell short, he has no regrets.

“That’s (Hot Boyz) a great team,” he said. “You could tell they’ve been playing together for awhile. They just came up when it was time to.”

As Pulu relished the moment of quarterbacking a championship team for the second season in a row, he said enjoying the time is all he is thinking about right now and has no idea if the team can do it again next year.

“This is my last year,” he admitted. “I’ll be leaving in a couple of months, so it just feels good to go out on top.”

Chief Flemming’s 70 qualifies for Sony Pro Am

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

After 26 years of active participation in the sport he loves, Chief Electrician’s Mate Jeffery Flemming, assigned to Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, achieved the pinnacle of his passion by shooting a 70 to qualify for the Sony Pro Am at the tournament’s qualifying round, which was held on Dec. 8 at Navy Marine Golf Course (NMGC).

Associated with the Sony Open, the first-full event of the PGA Tour, the Pro Am is scheduled for Jan. 8 at NMGC, one day before the first tee of the Open, which returns to Waialae Country Club. It will feature professional golfers such as Hideki Matsuyama, Hideto Tanihara, Adam Scott, Webb Simpson and defending champion Russell Henley.

“It’s a chance of a lifetime,” Flemming said. “To play with a PGA professional, I’ve never done that before. Obviously, I love the game of golf. I’ve been playing my whole life and for me to get the chance to play with the pros is great. Not just for me, but I will represent CNSG MIDPAC and the Navy.”

This year, Sony reserved eight qualifying spots for active-duty military, but the slots weren’t guaranteed.

Each armed forces member had to compete in an 18-hole qualifier for the slots, and Flemming’s 70 was the best round of the eight.

Not bad for a golfer that practices only once a week on the weekends, although Flemming admitted he might have had an advantage.

“I know the course pretty well,” he acknowledged. “So it’s kind of like a home course. I had a good feeling. I’ve been playing since I was 13 years old, so through junior high and high school, I’ve played competitive golf before. When I deploy, I always take my golf clubs on the ship with me. I’ve golfed in 15 different countries.”

While Flemming modestly downplayed his accomplishment, Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, praised the chief for an outstanding job.

“This chief is a no-kidding-proven engineer, a sea warrior,” Williams said. “He came from sea duty, working on ships, turning a

wrench, and on his off-duty time he plays golf and excels. He is a notch above.”

Williams offered congratulations to all of the military golfers who made the cut.

“Congratulations to all eight of the qualifiers who will have a chance to compete with the pros,” Williams stated. “This is just another example of the positive energy here for the military and our families stationed in Hawaii, and we are grateful to the Sony Pro-Am organizers who reached out to include us.”

In addition to Flemming, the qualifiers include Shelby Tucci, Navy; Eric Jordan and Robbie Richardson, Air Force; Travis Fulton and Kevin Williams, Marine Corps; Michael Merritt and Adam Delph, open slots.

Besides being a great opportunity, Flemming said that the Pro Am also gives him a huge platform to kick start a few future goals.

First up will be the All-Navy team, which he has tried out for before, but has fallen short.

“This is going to help me, when I try out for the All-Navy golf team next year,” he said. “This time, I want to make the team and this (Pro Am) is a great stepping



Even after a couple of days, a smiling Chief Electrician’s Mate Jeffery Flemming, assigned to Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, is still feeling the moment of qualifying for the 2014 Sony Pro Am.

stone for that.”

Then, with retirement around the corner, Flemming is already planning his future life with golf right in the middle of it all.

“When I retire, I want to go to the Golf Academy in Carlsbad, Calif.,” he said. “It will teach me, not only the golf side, but the retail side, how to conduct a tour-

nament and to be a teaching professional.”

As for the Pro Am, Flemming said that, while he expects some jitters, he is going to go there and have a blast.

For fellow military members who might be looking to follow in his footsteps, Flemming said that course management

is the key to golf.

Although it can be rough to stay on path, while juggling career, family and golf at the same time, he said that he never forgets what is important.

“It’s practice, patience and personal schedule,” he said. “I’m married, I’ve got two kids, and they come first.”

Window on



Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

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‘Plane’ to see why this humble, grateful Pearl Harbor survivor is our hero

Karen S. Spangler

Managing Editor

Ewalt Shatz survived the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. But he never expected to encounter challenges when he decided to make the trip to Hawaii to attend the 72nd Pearl Harbor Day commemoration.

Ninety-year-old Shatz, traveling alone, was bumped by an airline on a flight from Los Angeles to Hawaii on Dec. 4. Stranded and not knowing what to do, Shatz contacted his sponsor in Hawaii. Another airline came to the rescue and Shatz was put on a flight on his way to the 50th state.

He traveled from Los Angeles to Maui and then on another flight to finally reach Honolulu International Airport. Shatz said he received world-class, first-class treatment, and an atten-



U.S. Navy photo

Pearl Harbor survivor Ewalt Shatz participated in this year’s Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremonies.

dant flew with him from Maui to Honolulu. Meanwhile, word of his

dilemma had quickly traveled through the military community and when Shatz

arrived at the airport in Honolulu, he was met by dozens of military service members. Greeted with numerous enthusiastic smiles and lei, the Pearl Harbor survivor received a warm welcome when he arrived at the airport even though it was almost midnight.

As the story of his experiences in trying to come to Hawaii became news, Shatz became an instant celebrity and was interviewed by local news outlets. The story of his heroism during the war was also part of the story.

As a young Sailor, he was assigned to the USS Patterson at Pearl Harbor during the 1941 attack. His more experienced shipmates were below decks putting a boiler back together when the attack began. Shatz found himself manning a 50-caliber machine gun for the first time. The Navy credited him with shooting a

Japanese plane.

His heroism was recounted by Adm. Cecil Haney, former U.S. Pacific Fleet commander, during his keynote address at the Dec. 7, 2012 Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance ceremony. “That was some good shooting. Thank you for your courage and tenacity. Our nation is truly grateful,” Haney said.

Displaying a gentle smile and humility during the numerous interviews last week, Shatz denied any claims to being a hero. He also expressed his gratitude to those who helped him to finally make the journey to Hawaii.

For Shatz, his trip to Hawaii—as it has been in past years—was all about paying respects to his former shipmates who were killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was all about the bond that exists between service members, their commitment to their country, and their strong patriotism.

It was that same bond and connection that brought service members, many of them in uniform, to the airport to greet him when he finally arrived.

It was important to those service members to welcome one of their own and to extend their support and aloha.

Shatz never expected such fanfare or attention. He was just happy to finally be here and thankful to all of those who made it happen.

Ewalt Shatz, you are truly an American hero—not only because of your courage during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack but because of your humility, patriotic spirit, and gratitude. May God bless you and your fellow service members and may God bless the United States of America.

(We welcome comments from readers. If you have comments, please send them to: Karen.spangler@navy.mil.)

Hump Daayy beats Cowabunga Dudes for softball title

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The top two teams in Morale, Welfare and Recreation Winter Softball American League squared off for the league’s championship game on Dec. 7 at Millican Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, as Hump Daayy met Cowabunga Dudes.

In a slugfest, Hump Daayy broke out the heavy metal and thumped the Dudes, 23-12, to add another title trophy to Hump Daayy’s, also know as Snafu, growing number of crowns.

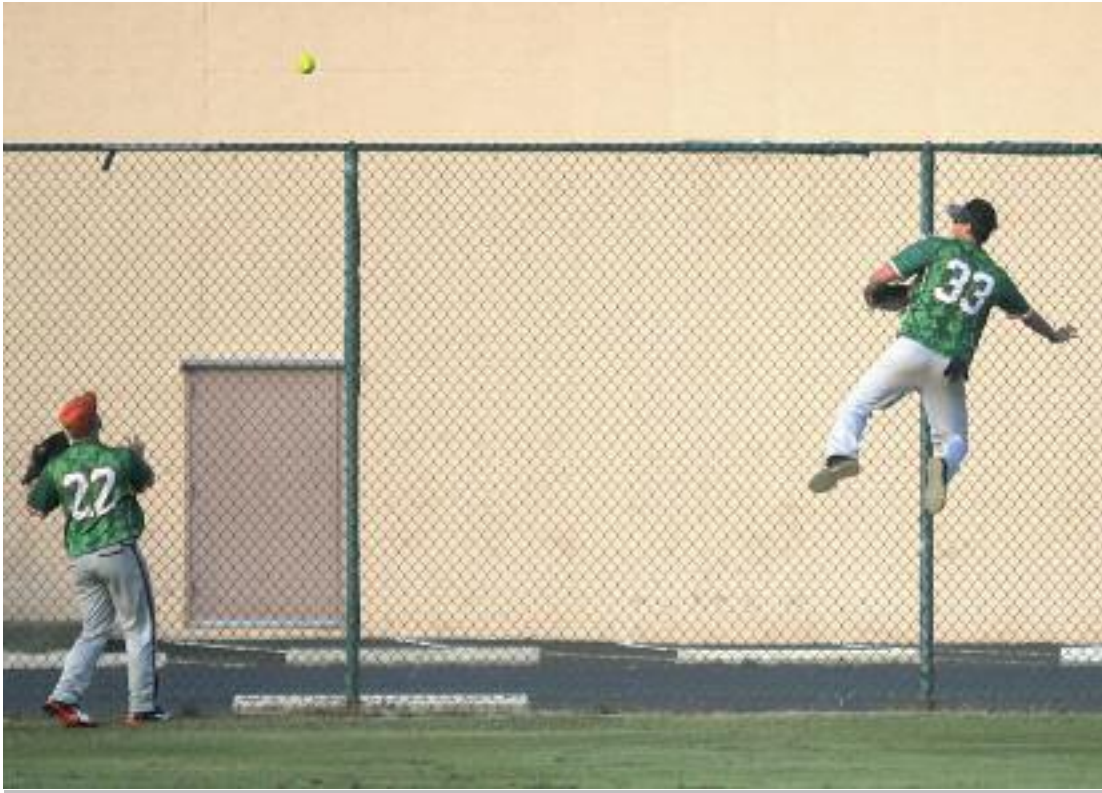
Led by the steady pitching of retired Chief Information Systems Technician Lloyd Shoemaker and the heavy bat and slick fielding of All-Armed Forces Softball member Electrician’s Mate 1st Class Jake Alicuban, Hump Daayy almost ended the game via mercy rule after taking a 16-2 lead into the bottom of the fifth inning.

Jumpstarting the day’s big outing at the plate was none other than Alicuban, who blasted a long three-run shot over the left-field fence in his first at-bat of the game.

In the top of the second, Hump Daayy bats were still blazing hot as the team led off with three straight singles before Gunner’s Mate 1st Class Frank Kuras stroked a triple, which led to another four-run inning.

Hump Daayy quickly exhausted their allotment of five home runs within the first four innings, which might have allowed the Dudes back into the game.

According to league rules, any



Ryan Taira, a Department of Defense civilian, leaps into the air while a teammate helplessly looks up at a home run off the bat of Electrician’s Mate 1st Class Jake Alicuban.

home runs after the allotment of five counts as an out.

In their remaining turns at the plate, Hump Daayy hitters launched at least five more shots deep into the night, but all of those bombs were counted just as long outs.

Leading 16-0 going into the bottom of the fourth, Dudes pitcher Senior Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Jeremy Porter started a comeback by crushing a pitch way over the left field fence for two

runs to make it 16-2.

Then facing elimination in the bottom of the first, Porter came up with the needed runs to extend the game by connecting on a grand slam to make it 16-7.

Hump Daay picked up a run in the top of the sixth to go back out in front by 10 at 17-7, but the Dudes drew even closer in their turn at-bat by adding five more runs to pull to within five at 17-12.

However, that was as close as the Dudes would get, as Hump

Daayy retaliated in the top of the seventh with six runs to close out the game.

Again, the big blow of the inning came off the bat of Alicuban, who lined a double that drove in two runs.

Alicuban admitted that since many of his teammates have played together since 2007, the familiarity of the squad members certainly helps when it all comes down to tournament time.

“It feels good. Everybody backs

each other up,” said Alicuban after the game. “We know what everybody can do.”

Shoemaker said that although Hump Daayy missed out on a chance to end it after five innings, he wasn’t too disappointed that it didn’t end that way.

“I just think we relaxed as a team,” Shoemaker admitted. “We started having a bit more fun instead of taking it too serious. That’s the fun about this team; when we need to crack down we crack down.”

Alicuban, who has represented the Navy at several armed forces softball tournaments and was recently ranked as the military’s top four player in the country, said that playing for Hump Daayy is a little less formal than playing against the top military teams in the country.

“We relax, play around and have fun,” he said. “That’s what we’re here for: have fun. You know, you never lose vision of that because once you don’t have fun, it’s not worth playing any more.”

On the topic of having fun, Shoemaker is in complete agreement with Alicuban. And he said that his Hump Daayy teammates are the perfect companions to do just that.

“I tell the guys, we have a common thing where we play softball, but our friendship is built off of softball,” Shoemaker said. “But if we didn’t have softball, we’d still have a bunch of great guys that hung out and have a great time. It’s just great meeting these guys and being on the same field competing with them. It’s a great opportunity and I enjoy it.”

Historic street signs reappear at Hickam

Story and photos by Hickam Communities LLC

Coming soon to a corner in the Officer Field and Hale Na Koa neighborhoods of Hickam Communities, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, are 61 street signs placed atop historic poles.

The poles take design cues from historic streetlights that doubled as street sign poles for Hickam homes during the late 1930s and early 1940s.

The original poles were made of concrete and left unpainted. The new signs are cast-iron metal and painted to match the color of surrounding homes.

The intent of the new street sign design is to capture the historic neighborhood’s character through fluted columns, a faceted

base and decorative tops. Landscape designer Towne and Home that designed the signs also sought to seamlessly integrate the signs into the existing historic tapestry and landscape of the neighborhoods.

Bryan Flower, Hickam Communities historic preservation specialist, described the process as balancing the historic ambience of the neighborhood while meeting modern requirements with new designs and materials.

“For me, this is a successful demonstration of how old and new are blended in ways that are pleasing to the eye, echo and honor the past and provide modern functionality, while enhancing the overall historic park-like setting of the neighborhood,” Flower said.



Street light and sign pole at the corner of Signer Boulevard and 6th Street, circa 1942.



The new street sign located at the corner of Signer Boulevard and 6th Street.



Live the Great Life

Last-minute holiday gifts available at Hawaiian Holiday Festival

Emily McNulty

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The 2013 Hawaiian Holiday Festival began Dec. 12 at the Hickam Commissary parking lot and continues through Dec. 15. Patrons can browse through discounted products offered by the commissary, including authentic Hawaiian products. The commissary will hold a farmers' market with fresh produce and a "case lot" sale.

Family activities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday include bounce houses, craft tents, photo opportunities with Santa, food booths, prize drawings and all-day live entertainment. "This event gives our patrons a chance to buy great deals at great prices, plus it's a great fun way to spend time with your family in our gorgeous Hawaiian weather," said Lara Katine, MWR special events director. For more information, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock
Patrons can shop at the "case lot" sale at the Hickam Commissary during the 2013 Hawaiian Holiday Festival.



Experience and remember at Ford Island Historical Tour

Helen Ko

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The attack on Pearl Harbor and Hickam is well-known to visitors and locals alike, but for some people, the history of Ford Island is undiscovered and waiting to be explored. Ford Island is also known as Moku'ume'ume—(Island of Strife). A tour of the island provides infor-

mation about this historical battle site that played a significant role in the Dec. 7, 1941 attack. Hickam Information, Tickets and Travel will host the tour that goes beyond visiting historic sites and also includes stories told by guide Jessie Higa. This tour will be held on an open-air trolley. One of the highlights of the tour was a stop at the Navy Club Memorial located facing the USS Arizona Memorial. This rock was

erected on Dec. 7, 1955 and is dedicated to the Sailors and Marines who sacrificed their lives for their country during the attack. Higa will explain why the Arizona Memorial is shaped the way it is and the symbolism behind it. The Ford Island Historical Tour will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, including Dec. 18. For more information, call 448-2295.

Your Weekly Fun with MWR

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



Phat Friday with DJ Magic and DJ G-Flava will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight today and Dec. 27 at JR Rockers Sports Café. Patrons can listen to music played by the U.S. Air Force's DJ Magic and DJ G-Flava. FMI: 448-2271.

5K Jingle Bell Jog will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at Hickam Fitness Center. Prizes will be awarded for the fastest reindeer (male and female), cutest elf and best Santa suit. The

event is open to all eligible patrons. No registration is required. FMI: 448-2214.

Honolulu City Lights Holiday Tours will depart from the Information, Tickets and Travel Office-Hickam at 6 and 8 p.m. today through Dec. 23 and at 6 and 6:30 p.m. today to Dec. 15 from Nimitz Pass & ID parking lot. No large strollers or carriers are allowed, although umbrella-type is OK. FMI: 473-0792, 422-2757, 682-2019, 564-4445 or 448-2295.

Ham Roll will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. now until Dec. 20 at the Hickam Bowling Center. Patrons can bowl for a chance to win a holiday ham with one entry per person for each game bowled. Four hams will be given away (only one ham per family or individual). The drawing will be held Dec. 21. FMI: 448-9959.

Cookies & Canvas will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. today and Dec. 17 at the Hickam Arts & Crafts Center. The activity is open to children ages 5 to 12 years old. Patrons can create painted masterpieces on stretched canvas, while nibbling on a sweet treat. Each session is themed. FMI: 448-9907.

Pee Wee Soccer Registration ends today. The league is open to youth ages 3 to 5.

The season runs from January through March. FMI: 473-0789 or www.greatlifehawaii.com.

Yoga By the Sea will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. tonight at the Hickam Beach near the life-guard tower. FMI: 448-2214.

Free Advance Screening: "Grudge Match" will begin at 4 p.m. Saturday at Sharkey Theater. The movie stars Robert De Niro and Sylvester Stallone. The ticket booth and doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free to the first 400 authorized patrons. FMI: 473-0726.

Learn to Spearfish will begin at 9 a.m. Dec. 21 and Dec. 22 at Outdoor Recreation-Hickam Harbor. Participants need to sign up by Dec. 18. FMI: 449-5215.



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Morale Welfare & Recreation

FREE JUNIOR GOLF CLINIC

A free junior golf clinic will begin at 4 p.m. Dec. 18 at Barbers Point Golf Course. FMI: 449-2300.

GROUP SURF LESSON

There will be a group surf lesson at 8 a.m. Dec. 21 at White Plains Beach. The registration deadline is Dec. 18. Shuttle service is included via the Outdoor Adventure Center-Fleet Store. Participants must be able to swim without a lifejacket. FMI: 473-1198.

FAMILY HIKE, SWIM

There will be a hike to Makapu'u lighthouse followed by a swim at Pele's Chair beginning at 9 a.m. Dec. 28. Departures are from the Outdoor Adventure Center-Fleet Store. The deadline for registration is Dec. 24. FMI: 473-1198.

UFC 168 IN HD

Patrons can watch Chris Weidman vs. Anderson Silva in a mixed martial arts event live from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas in high-def beginning at 3 p.m. Dec. 28 at J.R. Rockers. Doors open at 2 p.m. for preliminaries. FMI: 448-2271.

BOWLED OVER BY BOOKS

Bowled Over by Books is ongoing through Dec. 31 at the Hickam Library and Hickam Bowling Center. Patrons can sign up at the library and get a bookmark/stamp card. Bowling is valid while lanes are available Sunday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The offer is not valid for leagues, special events and Thunder Alley. This free program is open to youth in grades K-9. FMI: 449-8299 or 448-9959.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BOWLING PARTY

Hickam Bowling Center will host a New Year's Eve bowling party from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 31. The party package includes all-you-can-bowl, shoe rental and breakfast buffet at midnight. FMI: 448-9959.

Community Calendar

DECEMBER

SATURDAY — Breakfast with Santa will begin at 8 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange mall food court lanai. A child's ticket costs \$12 and an adult's ticket costs \$5. FMI: 423-3287.

16 — USO Hawaii is seeking donations to spread *aloha* to the troops during the holiday season. Drop-off locations include the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 16 and the Hickam USO at the AMC Passenger Terminal through Dec. 16. FMI: USO Hawaii's Facebook page.

16 — The annual Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights ship/submarine lighting decoration contest will be judged through an evening barge tour of the harbor. Categories include best decorations, best hospitality, best Christmas skit, best glee/choir and a Scrooge Award. One ship and one submarine will be selected for each category. Holiday lights aboard ships and submarines should be turned off at 9 p.m. nightly for energy efficiency. FMI: email eric.galassi@navy.mil or call 473-0660.

17-22 — The second annual Hawaii Pacific University Athletics Basketball Classic is scheduled for Dec. 20, 21 and 22 at Bloch Arena. Invited teams include Northwest Nazarene, Menlo College, Malone College and St. Katherine's College. Practice sessions are scheduled for Dec. 17 to 19. Games will be open to the public via base access limited to Bloch Arena. FMI: Jesse Nakanishi at 284-0593.

20 — Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Air Mobility Command Passenger Terminal will host a "space available brief" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hickam Memorial Theater. FMI: 449-6833 or <http://www.facebook.com/HickamAMC>.

JANUARY

5 to 12 — Military appreciation initiatives are available for the 2014 Sony Open in Hawaii. They include free admission, the military caddie program and Patriots' Outpost hospitality tent. Caddies are being recruited for the military caddie program on Jan. 8. In addition, at least volunteer 100 marshals and 40 parking volunteers are being recruited. FMI: e-mail volunteer@friendsofhawaii.org or call 523-7888.

AT A GLANCE

A voluntary, anonymous Navy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) survey is available through Jan. 6, 2014. The survey is accessible from any web-enabled computer (including a work computer), tablet or smartphone at www.donsapro.navy.mil/donsas.html. The password for all military participants is "2013Survey"



THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY (R)

Mia Sullivan has written a letter requesting Harper Stewart and his nine-month pregnant wife Robin's attendance at her Christmas weekend party. Harper is reluctant to go, as he's still not on the best of terms with Mia's husband and his estranged best friend Lance (a retiring running back for the New York Giants) after sleeping with Mia in college.

SHARKEY THEATER

TODAY 12/13

7:00 PM Delivery Man (PG-13)

SATURDAY 11/14

4:00 PM SNEAK PREVIEW-Grudge Match (PG-13)
7:00 PM The Best Man Holiday (R)

SUNDAY 12/15

2:30 PM Free Birds (PG)
4:30 pm Delivery Man (PG-13)
7:00 pm (3D) Thor: The Dark World (PG-13)

THURSDAY 12/19

7:00 PM The Counselor (R)

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY 12/13

6:00 PM Thor: The Dark World (PG-13)

SATURDAY 12/14

2:00 PM Free Birds (PG)
6:00 PM Advance Screening – Free Admission (PG13)
Tickets available at your local Exchange Food Court.
Seating open to non-ticket holders 30 minutes prior to showtime)

SUNDAY 12/15

2:00 PM Free Birds (PG)

THURSDAY 12/19

7:00 PM Ender's Game (PG13)

Movie Showtimes



Vintage warbirds land at Ford Island for Dec. 7 ceremonies



Photo courtesy of Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor

(Left): A Boeing Stearman PT-17 sits parked in front of Hangar 37 at the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor after landing on Ford Island runway on Dec. 5.

(Bottom left): A North American SNJ T-6 Texan taxis to a stop after landing at Ford Island runway.

(Bottom right): A Boeing Stearman PT-17 in flight over Ford Island.



U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth



U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Two vintage aircraft landed at Ford Island runway on Dec. 5 in preparation for fly-over ceremonies at the USS Arizona Memorial marking the anniversary of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

At approximately 9 a.m., Bruce Mayes of Pacific Warbirds piloted his North American SNJ T-6 Texan onto the Ford Island runway followed by Harry Greene in his Boeing Stearman PT-17, landing about 9:15 a.m.

The planes were parked at hangar 37 at the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor.

"It's a wonderful sight to see them in the air over Ford Island and landing on historic Ford Island runway," said museum executive director Ken DeHoff.

The North American SNJ T-6 Texans were originally built as training aircraft beginning in the 1930s. They

have seen extensive use in the U.S. military as well as militaries around the world. In movies, the T-6 has often been used to portray Japanese Zeroes in World War II films.

The Boeing Stearman PT-17 also originated as a military trainer in the 1930s. A bi-plane, surplus Stearmans have often been used as crop dusters and as stunt planes at air shows.

Lt. Cmdr. Harry Greene, Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, said he was excited to be part of this special event.

"I've always had a passion for older aircraft," he said. "It's a more tactile flying experience. The aircraft vibrates. You smell the oil. You smell the exhaust."

Greene has been flying vintage planes for just under 20 years, but he said the thrill is still there.

"I take off and make it about 50 or 60 seconds in the air before busting out in a grin," Greene said.

Performers vie to become talent sensations at JBPHH

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) held a talent show at Beeman Center on Nov. 29, which highlighted the skills of eight performers vying to become CSADD's next sensation in front of an audience of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam community.

There were no prizes awarded, but the contestants said they enjoyed being part of a show that provided a platform that allowed them the opportunity to show off their talents. The next talent show

will be held at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 20.

The contestants in the show and audience included members of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Guard and Reserve, as well as family members and civilians.

"It was a great showcasing opportunity for our service members and their families," said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Abrel Smith, the joint base CSADD president.

"CSADD'S Got Talent was so much fun and truly humbling. We had no idea how much talent there actually was hidden away here at JBPHH," Smith said.

For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/?sk=h_chr#1/JBPHHC SADD.

My Favorite Photo...

Brandon Bosworth took this photo of the flag being lowered at the Pearl harbor Visitor Center on Dec. 7.

How to submit
Email your (non-posed) photos to editor@hookelenews.com

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Pearl Harbor Festival of Lights to be held from Dec. 17 to 21

The Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights tours will begin Dec. 17. Boat tours of the harbor will be available from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 17 and 18, every half hour departing from Merry Point Landing for military and Department of Defense civilian ID holders. Tours for the general public will be every half hour 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 20 and 21 from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. Due to enhanced security measures in effect at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, 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. The tours are free, but a donation of canned goods for Hawaii's food charities will be accepted. 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. The tours will be offered as a community service by the National Park Service and the U.S. Navy. For more information, call Lt. Eric Galassi at 473-0660, email amanda_carona@nps.gov or visit the website http://www.pacifichistoricparks.org/phh_events.php

Hickam Communities, Forest City highlight holiday lighting, recycling information

Hickam Communities
Hickam Communities has announced holiday lighting and recycling guidelines. They include:

- Holiday lighting**
- All lights that are strung should be temporary and can only be placed on the first floor roofline. For safety reasons, residents should keep off roofs.
 - Clips are recommended for easy removal. Nails and screws may not be used.
 - Lights for the holiday season may remain up through Jan. 1.
 - Lights should only be on between the hours of 6 and 10 p.m.
 - Lighting restrictions do not apply on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve/Day.
 - Lights need to be removed by Jan. 15.
 - Solar and LED holiday lights are encouraged, and all lights need to be approved and rated for exterior use.
- More information can be found in Hickam Communities Resident Guide, Section 5.12: Exterior Decorative Lights.

- Christmas tree recycling**
- Residents can recycle Christmas trees, stripped of all decorations, by placing them inside or beside green waste recycling bins located throughout the neighborhood. Stripped trees also can be left curbside for pick-up on the neighborhood recycling pick-up day. A flocked tree cannot be recycled so put these in regular garbage container.

Forest City Military Communities
Forest City Military Communities advises residents to check the resident handbook for rules pertaining to the use of holiday lights and decorations, and the approved hours to have lighting on.

Green waste
Green waste such as yard trimmings, leaves, grass clippings, Christmas trees (but no ornaments, tinsel or flocking) should be taken to the City Convenience Centers to be

taken to the composting facility, Hawaiian Earth Products. The green waste should be placed curbside for recycling collection in green carts in automated collection areas or in bags in manual collection areas. It can be dropped off at the City Convenience Centers or taken directly to the composting facility, Hawaiian Earth Products, which manufactures mulch and compost products. Residents should leave grass clippings on their lawn when they mow to return nutrients to the soil. Green waste is restricted at city disposal sites to no more than 10 percent per truckload. Large commercial generators of green waste, including landscapers and property managers, should deliver to the composting facility. Onsite do-it-yourself shredding and mulching is also an option. For more information, residents can also visit the website www.fcnavyhawaii.com or contact their resident services office.

Forest City plans holiday activities for residents of military communities

Forest City Military Communities

- A series of holiday-themed events have been scheduled for residents of Forest City Military Communities. They include:
- Today, 3 to 4 p.m., surfin' Santa pictures at Halsey Terrace Community Center. East community residents are invited to bring cameras for photos. For more information, call 839-8620.
 - Dec. 16, 9 to 11 a.m., cookie social and recipe exchange at Pearl City Community Center for central community residents. For more information, call 839-8670.
 - Dec. 16 through 20, gift wrapping by the Forest City "elves" at Moanalua Community Center. West community residents can bring gifts to the office and let the Forest City elves do the work. For more information, call 839-8640.
 - Dec. 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., gingerbread

house social at Camp Stover Community Center. Central community residents can bring their fully constructed gingerbread house to enter in a contest that could win a prize. For more information, call 839-8670.

- Dec. 18, 3 to 4:30 p.m., cookie-decorating contest at Halsey Terrace Community Center. East community residents can bring their decorating skills to the decorating contest. Supplies will be provided. For more information, call 839-8620.
- Dec. 20, 3 to 4:30 p.m., holiday crafting event at Radford Terrace Community Center for east community residents. For more information, call 839-8620.
- Now through Dec. 20, holiday decoration contest in all east community neighborhoods. Forest City is looking for the most holiday-spirited homes to take the winning spot. Judging will take place on Dec. 20. For more information, call 839-8620.



Photo by Rico Omaha Hutter

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Dec. 7 survivor attends Hickam Historical Tour

Reid Tokeshi

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

The Hickam Historical Tour on Dec. 6 included the service of someone who was actually there during the fateful attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

Tech Sgt. Derwood Swanson was an honored guest aboard the trolley tour hosted by Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation, that takes patrons on a journey back in time.

Patrons from near and far attended the tour for the opportunity to meet Swanson and hear the personal stories told by him and guide Jessie Higa.

Swanson said he enjoyed the tour.

“I did, very much so. It was nothing new to me. I relived a lot today of what happened Dec. 7,” said Swanson.

At the end of the tour, participants gathered to honor Swanson and express appreciation for what he has done.

Swanson said, “Like I said, if it started again, if I could do anything, I’d do it just like I did it before.”

Erma Gibbons, a former Navy service member from Michigan, was visiting her sister here in Hawaii when they decided to go on the tour.

“The tour was wonderful,” said Gibbons, adding that having Swanson on the tour was the best part. Gibbons’ sister Stephanie Wickizer, former Air Force

member now married to an active duty Air Force service member, said, “This is my second time on the tour. When family visits, I try to get them on the tour.”

“When we saw that Swanson would be on the tour, we wanted to go,” said Julie Defazio, Air Force spouse.

Defazio and other Air Force spouses, Anisa Hunter and Susan Forrer, said their favorite part of the tour was when they visited the U.S. flag on display in the headquarters building. The flag was the original one flying on the day of the attack in 1941 and Swanson was the person who lowered the flag afterward.

“When he stood and saluted the flag, it was such a moving moment,” said Forrer, who participated in the tour for the second time.

Larry and Cheryl Cromer traveled from Southwick, Va. to visit their daughter Trenea Butera, whose husband is active duty Navy. Butera was looking for activities for her parents during their visit.

“When I saw that you were running this special tour with the veteran, I thought it was a great opportunity we couldn’t pass up,” Butera said.

The Cromers also said having Swanson on the tour was their favorite part.

“It made it more real,” Larry said.

Cheryl added, “I just thought since we were going to be here on Dec. 7, we should do some activities” related to the event.



The Hickam Historical Tour on Dec. 6 included the outside of the headquarters building.

Learn more about RECP and saving energy

Karen S. Spangler
Managing Editor

Hawaii-based Sailors, Information Systems Technician 1st Class Joshua Brown and Damage Controlman 1st Class Amy Lynn Huitrado, and their families were featured in recent articles in “Currents” magazine. The Sailors offered insight into some of the ways that they are able to save energy and reduce their electricity bills as residents of Navy housing.

Beginning Oct. 1, a rate increase of 123 percent was implemented for all Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii energy customers, including residents of Forest City under the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP).

The fall 2013 issue of “Currents,” the Navy’s energy and environmental magazine, focuses on Navy Region Hawaii and the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP).

“Currents” also provided background on RECP and the beginning of the RECP pilot program in Hawaii as well as energy usage statistics and additional energy saving tips.

To view the issue of “Currents,” visit <http://ow.ly/rGCqE> or download the PDF at : <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/currents-magazine/>.

Numerous articles about RECP that provide helpful information to residents for managing their housing electricity bills have been featured in previous issues of Ho’okele. The most recent of these articles were published in the Nov. 15, 2013 edition, pages A-6 and A-7. To access previous Ho’okele issues, check <http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/hawaii> or www.hookelenews.com.

More information about energy conservation is available at the Navy Region Hawaii website at <http://ow.ly/rGFJH> and www.livewithinthebuffer.com or the Forest City website at <http://www.fcnavyhawaii.com/recp/>.

Volunteer opportunities for Sony Open announced

Military appreciation initiatives are available for the 2014 Sony Open golf tournament in Hawaii from Jan. 5 to 12.

They include free admission and the Patriots’ Outpost hospitality tent.

Caddies are being recruited for the Military Caddie Program on Jan. 8.

In addition, at least 100 volunteer marshals and 40 parking volunteers are

being recruited.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, e-mail volunteer@friendsofhawaii.org or call 792-9305.

More information can also be found at the websites <http://www.sonyopeninhalawaii.com/attending.html> and <http://www.friendsofhawaii.org/sony-open-hawaii/volunteers>.

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Story Ideas?

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

473-2890

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