

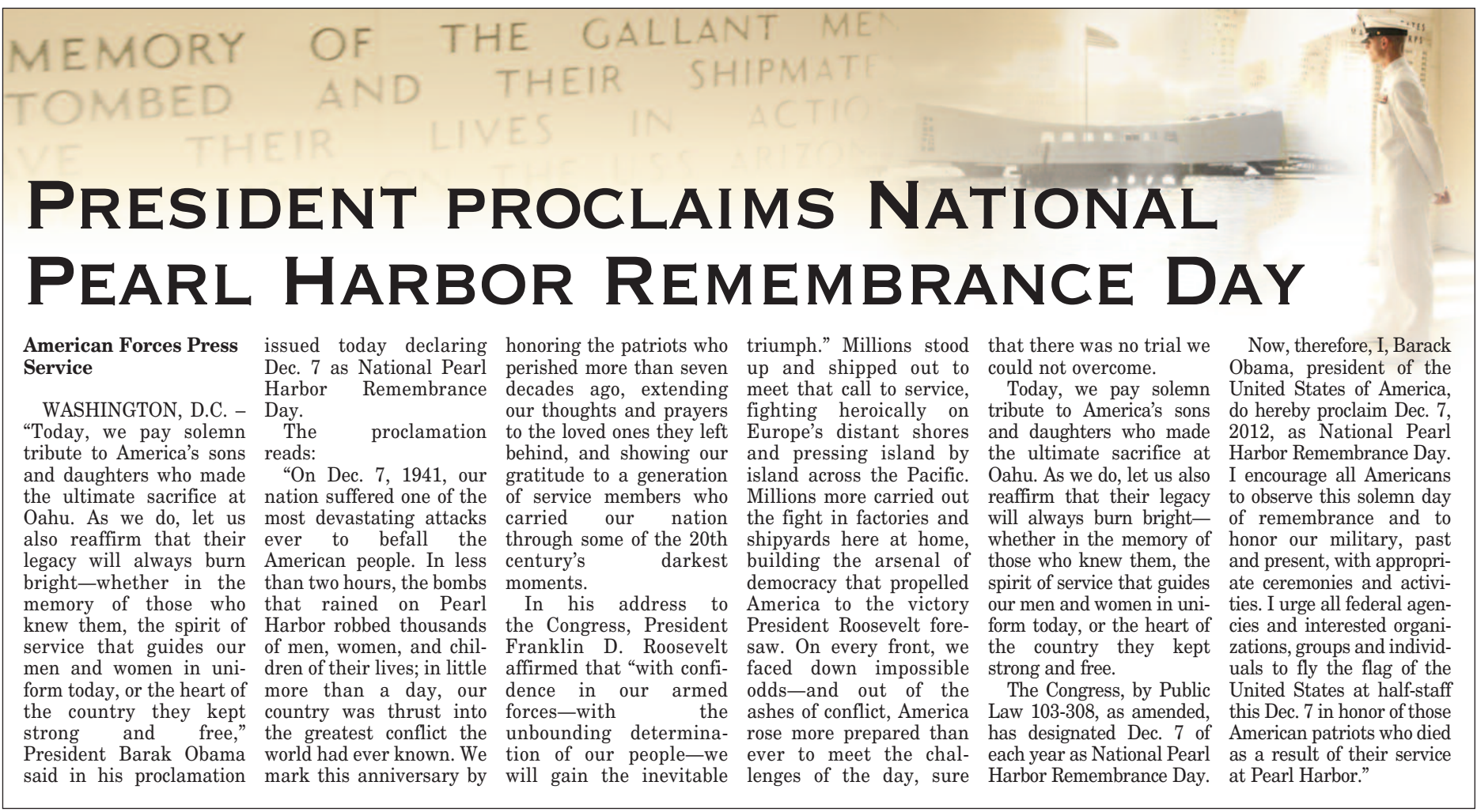


## USS Nevada survivor helps unveil new wayside exhibit

USS Nevada (BB 36) survivor Woody Derby, age 94, looks at the new Nevada wayside exhibit unveiled yesterday at Hospital Point on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Row can be seen in the distance from the exhibit, which includes an engraved plaque describing the actions of the battleship Nevada and its crew. (See next week's Hookele for complete coverage of Dec. 7 events)

Photo illustration | U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Sean Furey





## PRESIDENT PROCLAIMS NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

**American Forces Press Service**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – “Today, we pay solemn tribute to America’s sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice at Oahu. As we do, let us also reaffirm that their legacy will always burn bright—whether in the memory of those who knew them, the spirit of service that guides our men and women in uniform today, or the heart of the country they kept strong and free,” President Barak Obama said in his proclamation

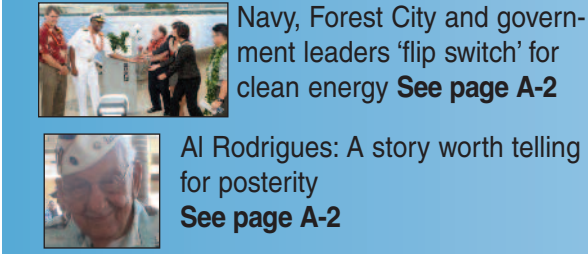
issued today declaring Dec. 7 as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The proclamation reads: “On Dec. 7, 1941, our nation suffered one of the most devastating attacks ever to befall the American people. In less than two hours, the bombs that rained on Pearl Harbor robbed thousands of men, women, and children of their lives; in little more than a day, our country was thrust into the greatest conflict the world had ever known. We mark this anniversary by

honoring the patriots who perished more than seven decades ago, extending our thoughts and prayers to the loved ones they left behind, and showing our gratitude to a generation of service members who carried our nation through some of the 20th century’s darkest moments. In his address to the Congress, President Franklin D. Roosevelt affirmed that “with confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable

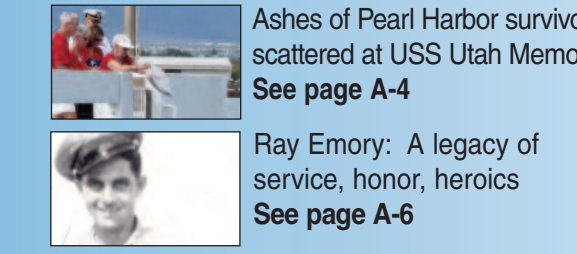
triumph.” Millions stood up and shipped out to meet that call to service, fighting heroically on Europe’s distant shores and pressing island by island across the Pacific. Millions more carried out the fight in factories and shipyards here at home, building the arsenal of democracy that propelled America to the victory President Roosevelt foresaw. On every front, we faced down impossible odds—and out of the ashes of conflict, America rose more prepared than ever to meet the challenges of the day, sure

that there was no trial we could not overcome. Today, we pay solemn tribute to America’s sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice at Oahu. As we do, let us also reaffirm that their legacy will always burn bright—whether in the memory of those who knew them, the spirit of service that guides our men and women in uniform today, or the heart of the country they kept strong and free. The Congress, by Public Law 103-308, as amended, has designated Dec. 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.


Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Dec. 7, 2012, as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this solemn day of remembrance and to honor our military, past and present, with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I urge all federal agencies and interested organizations, groups and individuals to fly the flag of the United States at half-staff this Dec. 7 in honor of those American patriots who died as a result of their service at Pearl Harbor.”




Navy, Forest City and government leaders 'flip switch' for clean energy **See page A-2**




Al Rodrigues: A story worth telling for posterity **See page A-2**



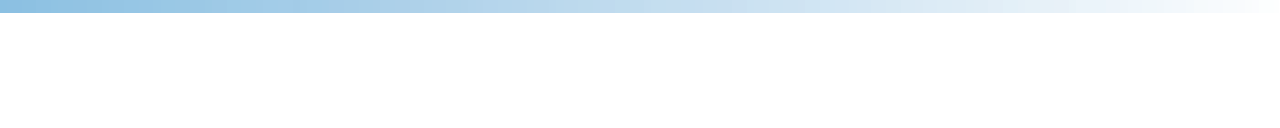
Ashes of Pearl Harbor survivor scattered at USS Utah Memorial **See page A-4**



Ray Emory: A legacy of service, honor, heroics **See page A-6**



Tower Lighting Celebration features Tops in Blue **See page B-1**



Festival of lights to include ship/submarine holiday lighting contest **See page B-6**



# Al Rodrigues: A story worth telling for posterity

Story and photo by  
QM1 Sean Vis

Navy Region Hawaii Public  
Affairs Office

Everyone has a story to tell, but not many are actually worth telling. Alfred “Al” Rodrigues has made it a mission to pass his story along.

Actually, it is not just his story he wants to pass along, but the story about the bombing of Pearl Harbor and all the brave souls who died defending our country and those who lived to fight another day. His biggest concern is not just that the story will be lost, but that the memory of those people will also be lost.

At 92 years old, he still remembers that “day of infamy,” as President Roosevelt is so often quoted. Al loves to interact with the public that gathers around him to ask questions or pose for pictures.

Al’s story begins just like everyone else’s on Dec. 7. “When I woke up at 3:30 that morning, I was told by an officer that the USS Ward had sunk a two-man



Alfred “Al” Rodrigues

Japanese sub a few miles outside the entrance to Pearl Harbor.”

“We had no idea we were going to be attacked, so I headed to work. I had the 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. watch as a third class storekeeper at the section base on Bishop’s Point, when the planes attacked,” Al explained.

Remembering back to that fateful day, Al said that the next few hours were the worst of his life, but he managed to make it through them virtually unscathed. Physically he was fine, but mentally, the memories never go away,” he said.

After the bombing, the

base was on restriction. “All telephones were restricted, so I couldn’t even call my sister. So the next day (Dec. 8) some bread man I knew was delivering bread and I asked him to call my family,” Al said.

During the following weeks, he helped to create living spaces for the members of the military who lost berthing on the ships that were sunk or their quarters destroyed. That time on base gave him the chance to get back into a normal routine, even though nothing was really normal on the island, he said.

He remembered, “Honolulu was blacked out. You couldn’t drive at night. All bars were closed at 4 p.m., before it got dark, so people could get out and go home.”

The restriction lasted for two weeks and once it was finally lifted, he said that he did what every able-bodied Sailor does after being locked down for two weeks. He played a round of golf.

“I worked for a chief who was a golfer. The day they let us leave the base, three

of us went to play golf. It was one big relief,” Al said.

After his tour was up at Pearl, he headed off on the USS Washington. He was aboard the battleship for 21 months as they bombarded many of the islands the Japanese held. He was involved in almost every main battle in the Pacific.

Some things turned out lucky for Al. “I was a storekeeper aboard the ship, so I had it made. We had to have a thousand cases of beer for liberty in different atolls. I was a big man,” he shared.

Thinking back to all of those battles and attacks, he recalled, “The worst incident was when our ship was fueling. One of the other ships, the USS Indiana, instead of zigging, it zagged.”

The Indiana lost 21 men and the Washington lost nine men. They also lost about 90 feet of their bow and had to go to the shipyard for repairs. Although it was a tragic accident, it gave them 31 days in Seattle, and the crew was definitely thankful for that. With a smile, Al said, “But it was a good 31 days!”

Once the ship was repaired, they headed back out to the Pacific. He finished his tour and then headed to the Brooklyn Shipyards to work in the redistribution section. “I stayed in New York City until the war ended. (on Aug. 14, 1945) I had taken my boss up to Times Square to a hotel for a meeting. When we got out of the meeting, Times Square was so full of people, we couldn’t move the car. That was the day the Sailor was kissing the nurse,” Al remembered.

He then spent four years in Japan and later rotated back to the states. Up until his retirement in from the Navy in 1964, he spent time aboard five more ships. When he came home to Hawaii, he landed a job at the former Hickam Air Force Base in the general services administration office. He worked there for 30 years and retired in 1994.

You would think that 54 years of government work would be enough for most people, but not for Al. Nowadays, you can find him sitting at the Pearl Harbor memorials talking

to anyone who comes up to his table. He is more than willing to let them take photos and ask questions.

At 92 years old, he said he has lived a blessed life. He survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, made it through many battles in the Pacific, and was in Times Square when the war ended.

He was married for 44 years and has nine children. His love of family and country is evidenced in his passion for what he does at the memorials. “We should remember what members of my generation did and pass it along to future generations what these brave men and women did to preserve our freedom,” Al said.

*Writer’s note: Prior to leaving, I mentioned to Al that he and the other Pearl Harbor survivors that tell their story are the real stars at the memorial. He smiled and laughed it off, but in this age of 24-hour news, paparazzi and Internet, it is refreshing to meet celebrities who love the public and are not afraid to engage them. It is a story that is not only worth telling, but worth hearing.*

## Navy, Forest City and government leaders ‘flip switch’ for clean energy

QM1 Sean Vis

Navy Region Hawaii Public  
Affairs Office

Leaders from the Navy, Forest City Residential Management and businesses joined Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie on Dec. 3 to “flip the switch” for solar energy for the Forest City housing area at Pearl City Peninsula.

With more than 4,300 photovoltaic panels, the 1.23 megawatt solar farm will be able to provide electricity for 150 to 250 military homes.

“This is a big step forward and series of steps that are being taken inside the military to diversify its energy component,” noted Abercrombie.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, added that the project is helping the Navy by reducing the reliance on fossil fuels.

“This commissioning ceremony here today represents our “hands on” approach to promoting renewable energy. We are taking action as part of this team and others toward greater energy security, force readiness and sustainability,” he said.

“Our sons and daughters have fought and died in the desert for years over this issue about fossil fuels and our dependence on them. It is about time we release them from that obligation and look for alternatives. This is a force readiness issue. It is about independence,” Ponds added.

The admiral discussed the similarities between America’s current dependence on oil and the events leading up to the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

“As we approach the 71st



U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds (second from left), commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, flips the power switch for the Pearl City Peninsula Photovoltaic Solar Farm along with Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie (middle right); Jennifer Sabas, chief of staff, office of the U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye; and Connie Lau, president and CEO, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc.; during a ceremony Dec. 3 in Pearl City. Jon Wallenstrom (left), president of Forest City Hawaii Residential, Inc.; and Pono Shim (far right), president and CEO, Enterprise Honolulu, are also present.

anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day this week, let us remember that the war in the Pacific was ignited, in part, by a U.S. oil embargo against Imperial Japan in the summer of 1941. When we become self-sustaining in energy, we reduce the risk to our Sailors, Airmen, Soldiers and Marines,” Ponds said.

The Navy in Hawaii has made significant strides toward energy reduction and use of renewable energy, resulting in a number of awards and accomplishments dur-

ing the past year.

Earlier this year the Hawaii State Legislature presented the Navy installations in Hawaii with special recognition for environmental stewardship and energy conservation.

Navy Region Hawaii and its public-private venture partner, Forest City, partners served as the pilot program for the Renewable Energy Conservation Program, which is now being instituted worldwide.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Hickam was also recently awarded the Navy’s top prize for energy and water conservation for a large installation by the Secretary of the Navy.

“Working with other services and agencies, we are embracing renewable energy, including wind, wave, photovoltaic, biofuels and geothermal wherever we can. This is the right thing to do – for the aina and for our ohana – and we are grateful to have strong partners in this worthwhile endeavor,” Ponds explained.

The admiral emphasized the importance of continuing to look at all available and acceptable sites for effective renewable energy options and said that everyone needs to work together to meet national, state and Secretary of the Navy renewable energy sustainability goals.

“As we flip the switch – and make the switch – to clean energy, let’s remember: This is a force readiness issue. The reasons to act are clear. The time to act is now,” Ponds said.

## Chafee Sailors give ‘Wicked’ tour for cast

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Members of the cast and crew of the touring company for “Wicked” toured the USS Chafee on Nov. 30.

“Wicked” is a successful Broadway musical based on the novel “Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West” by Gregory Maguire.

The tour came about as a result of Lt. j.g. Jamie Talbott’s background in the theatrical community and her friendship with a member of the show’s crew.

“I am friends and a former colleague of J. Jason Daunter, the production stage manager,” she said. “He and I did “Cyranos de Bergerac” on Broadway in 2007 and “Up in the Air” at the Kennedy Center in 2008. I also know assistant stage manager Molly



CTT2 Steven Carlson and the “Wicked” cast and crew tour the bridge of the USS Chafee. See additional photo on page A-5.

Braverman. I met her when she and Jason were doing the Broadway production of “Wicked.””

Cast and crew members of “Wicked” were intrigued by the idea of a

former stage manager going into the Navy.

“I went to see the show, and Jason introduced me to some of the cast and crew,” said Talbott. “I told them what I did for a liv-

ing. Jason asked me if it would be possible for some of them to come see the ship and the base, so I asked the XO [executive officer] and CO [commanding officer] and coor-

minated it through OPS [operations] (and DESRON 31 [Destroyer Squadron 31], and through the MIDPAC PAO [Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs office].”

“Interest kept getting generated as more of the cast and crew heard that a tour was being offered, hence the nearly 30 personnel we hosted last Friday,” Talbott said.

Throughout the tour of Chafee, the visitors from “Wicked” were curious and enthusiastic, asking questions ranging from the type of medical care available aboard the ship to emergency procedures to day-to-day life while at sea. Some of the questions had their origins in pop culture.

“A lot of what I’m asking comes from ‘Star Trek,’” said actress Renée Lawless-Orsini.

Talbott said she thought the tour went very well.

“The Sailors and artists, both professional experts, developed a deep respect and beginnings of friendships with each other,” she said.

“For Sailors, it is always beneficial and a source of professional pride to show our citizens what we do and display our excellence, to allow them to take pride in the tax dollars they spend, ensuring we can do our job in defending our nation and being the global force for good,” Talbott said.

The guests from “Wicked” were also happy with the experience.

“This was pretty incredible,” said company manager Steve Quinn. “It’s just amazing to see the dedication and commitment to our country.”

“Wicked” is being performed live at the concert hall at Neal S. Blaisdell Center through Jan. 12. For more information, visit [www.blaisdellcenter.com](http://www.blaisdellcenter.com).



Commentary Coming of Age: From Innocence to Valor

Remembering history of USS Arizona's 'Last Band'

Molly Kent

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the USS Arizona was totally destroyed, along with 1,177 of her crew of 1,511.

And the families of those 1177 boys were immediately plunged into the deepest grief they would ever know.

Also killed in its entirety that day was Arizona's 21-piece U.S. Navy Band. My brother, Clyde Richard Williams, musician second class, was a member of that band.

Arizona's musicians were all young, having just graduated from the U.S. Navy School of Music in May 1941. Fifteen of her musicians were not yet 21 years old.

At that time, a person had to be 21 years old to vote. I have often thought, "They were not old enough to participate in their country's elections, but they were old enough to die for her."

Because of the nature of the Pearl Harbor attack and because we have so few photographs, we probably will never know the complete story of that event. We have had to rely on eyewitnesses, young men who were completely traumatized by the horrible sights and sounds of that day.

Most of the age of the families back home was against Japan, of course, but also against our president, our U.S. Navy, our entire country - rage that they could have been caught so unprepared.

After all, we thought we

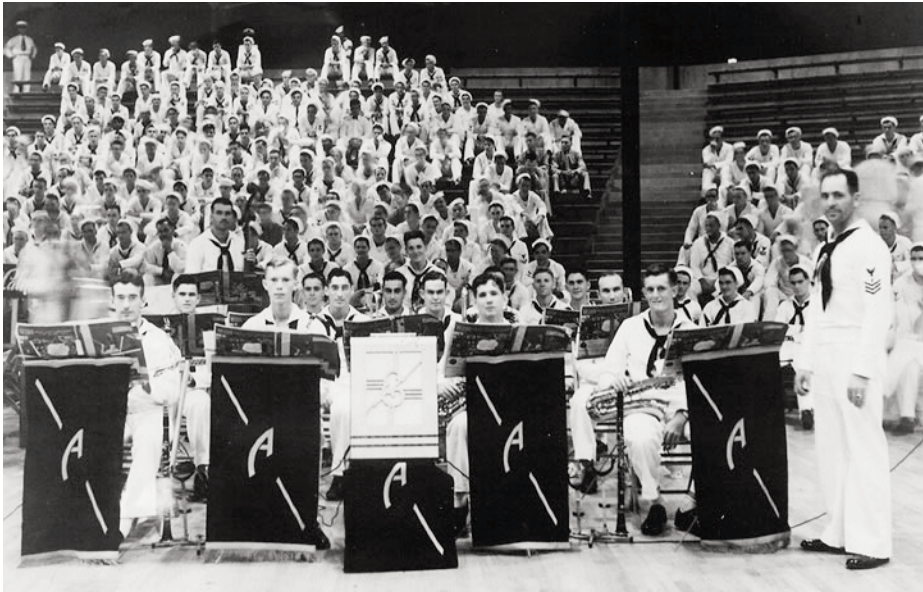


Photo courtesy of Molly Kent

had entrusted our boys to the strongest Navy in the world.

And we were angry about the length of time it took the Navy to notify us about our boys. We all received our "missing in action" telegrams on Dec. 19, 12 days after the attack.

Obviously, with television not yet invented, with no radio reports, and with our government maintaining total silence, we had no clue as to the actual conditions in Pearl Harbor at that time.

We finally heard the news on the radio. The USS Arizona had been sunk.

After four long years, the end of World War II came at last.

VJ Day was especially hard for those of us who had lost loved ones. We were grateful that our men serving all over the world

could now come home, but our special person would not be among them.

I was only 17 months older than my brother, so every time I passed another milestone in my life, I would think of him with sadness.

Each time I would think, "Well, here is another thing my brother will never experience."

I always wondered where Clyde would have met his future wife and where they would have decided to live?

And, oh, I thought of how Clyde would have loved the benefits which our government extended to our returning service men and women. Now there was a chance to go to college - something we had never dreamed of doing when we were growing up.

And there was help to buy a house - imagine, being able to marry, find a good job, own your own home, and if you worked hard, have a chance to live comfortably without worrying where the next meal was coming from.

And he would have been able to buy a car. We were never allowed to drive our family car because after all, if we had wrecked it, how would our father have been able to buy another one? Many former Navy musicians have told me that I could rest assured the Arizona musicians would have done well and would have lived happy lives.

They have told me that some Navy musicians remained in the Navy as a career, some joined one of the Big Bands then so popular, and some returned to college (with financial help from our government). Many became music teachers at various colleges.

Each time one of my children was born, I thought, "They will know what a good man their Uncle Clyde was because I will tell them. But they will never actually see for themselves."

As we raised our children and made sure they had all the latest things, I thought of our childhood. We always had enough to eat

and a nice warm home, but certainly none of the luxuries we now heaped on our children.

Thanks to inventions made during the war, we now had telephones that required almost no effort to use.

We had nice record players in each of the children's rooms, along with a big stack of records.

And the really big one - our first television. What a difference that made in our lives.

How I wished Clyde could have seen all that.

We filled our homes with the latest electrical gadgets and bought all the labor-saving devices we could find. Gone was the pure drudgery of our lives before the war, allowing time and energy for outside interests.

Even as we enjoyed these conveniences, we knew they had come from all the research our country had done during the war, and we embraced them with mixed feelings.

As we went from the Big Band sound to what we call music today, I longed to discuss it with Clyde.

Never before, or since, have the people of the United States pulled together ... to fight our common enemy.

Boys formed long lines at the recruiting offices of our armed forces on the morning of Dec. 8, eager to enlist and help our country.

Girls and older people not able to join one of our armed forces soon left home to work for our government or in one of our defense plants.

Civilians gave up every comfort - meat, canned goods, new cars, tires, gasoline, nylon stockings - anything which "our boys"

needed was cheerfully given up.

As I think back to how we lived during the war years, I cannot help but compare our days to the present time. Now our citizens complain loudly and bitterly about any of our government's efforts to keep us safe from terrorists.

And all we hear is, "Imagine, they patted me down at the airport and embarrassed me in public." The people of the "Greatest Generation" would never have complained about such a small sacrifice.

Our country came of age on Dec. 7, 1941 as we realized we no longer sat isolated from greedy countries who wished to help themselves to whatever we had.

Our citizens came of age on Dec. 7, 1941 as we gradually realized our slow, easy way of life had ended forever.

Our world came of age on Aug. 6-9, 1945 when the United States dropped several atomic bombs onto Japanese cities. As we contemplated the horror of that destruction, people of the world realized we must never, ever, use such an instrument of destruction again.

(Molly Kent is the author of "USS Arizona's Last Band," which chronicles the history of the band through hundreds of interviews, letters, citations, news clippings and other sources. Kent's comprehensive research and commitment to the 21 members of Band 22 documents the facts and contemplates the loss of innocence during and after the Second World War. Her book is reviewed on the Navy Reads blog: [http:// bit.ly/SOvtAW](http://bit.ly/SOvtAW) - ed.)

Diverse Views



How do you think Dec. 7 changed America?



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Feely  
65th Airlift Squadron

"I believe it was a wake-up call for the U.S. Made us realize we are not invincible and brought us together in pride and patriotism, much the way the 9/11 attacks did. Also, it cemented our role as

the 'big brother' of the world. With great power, comes great responsibility."

Gunner's Mate 2nd Class  
Austin Hartman  
Navy Region Hawaii  
Operations Center



"Drastically. It did spark the war in the Pacific, which in turn brought about massive industrial advances that shaped the way Americans lived."



Airman 1st Class Joshua Mann  
647th Force Support Squadron

"I believe Dec. 7 opened Americans' eyes to the war and made us face the fact sometimes we have to get involved despite our beliefs."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class  
Matthew Sage  
JBPHH Security



"It stunned us. No one saw it coming. This changed America's outlook from a defense standpoint. These events made America's military and civilians come together as a whole and as a family."



Lt. Col. Paul Greenlee  
HQ PACAF

"It made us look outside our borders and reminded us of how important it is to defend the freedoms that make our country great."

Culinary Specialist 1st Class  
Jaime Velasco  
JBPPH Fleet and Family  
Readiness Program



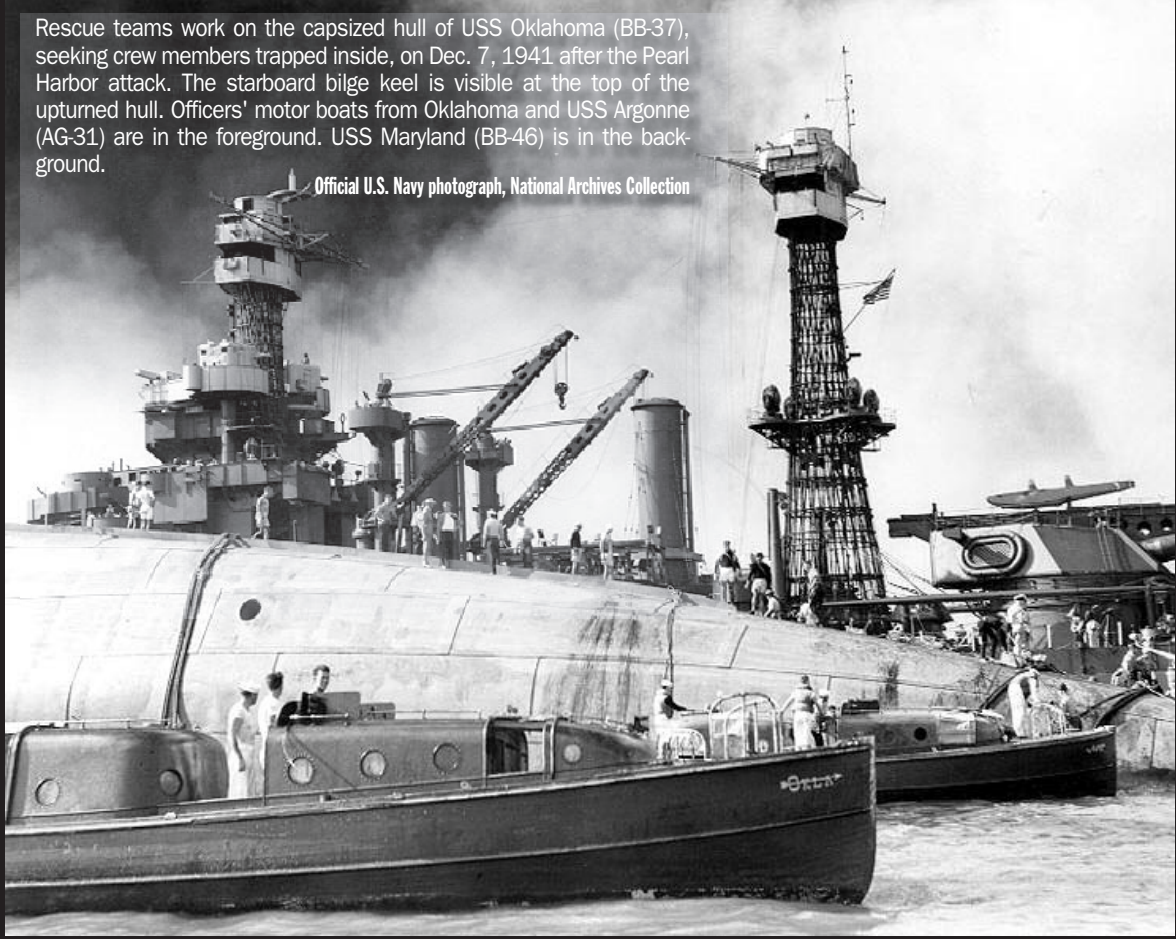
"It changed the country's outlook on security and information. It showed that anyone is vulnerable. It also showed how great a country could be when united."

(Contributed by David Underwood Jr. and Quartermaster 1st Class Sean Vis)

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

Drop us a line at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or [karen.spangler@navy.mil](mailto:karen.spangler@navy.mil)

Rescue teams assist at USS Oklahoma



Rescue teams work on the capsized hull of USS Oklahoma (BB-37), seeking crew members trapped inside, on Dec. 7, 1941 after the Pearl Harbor attack. The starboard bilge keel is visible at the top of the upturned hull. Officers' motor boats from Oklahoma and USS Argonne (AG-31) are in the foreground. USS Maryland (BB-46) is in the background.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, National Archives Collection

HO'OKELE

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# Ashes of Pearl Harbor survivor James McDavid scattered at USS Utah Memorial

Story and photos by  
Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

The ashes of James H. McDavid, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, were scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island during a ceremony held Dec. 4.

“James’s wish was to have his remains returned to Pearl Harbor so he could join his shipmates killed that fateful day,” said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison, who spoke at the ceremony.

“Thanks to Metha, his loving wife of 67 years, his wish will come true immediately following full military honors, which he so richly deserves.”

McDavid was born March 23, 1921 in Waco, Texas. His family had lost everything during the Great Depression, so he joined the Navy in hopes of getting an education.

He was stationed aboard the battleship USS Pennsylvania at Pearl Harbor. He initially was attached to the gunnery division, but requested to change position and was assigned to be a plane spotter. His battle station was on the upper mast of the ship.

The change of position was fortunate for McDavid. The Sailor who took his place at the guns was killed on Dec. 7.

In a similar stroke of luck, his ship Pennsylvania was also in a different position



Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison, presides over the ceremony honoring James McDavid.



James McDavid's granddaughter Christine is given the American flag honoring her grandfather.



The ashes of James McDavid are scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial.

than usual that day. It was in the shipyard. Taking Pennsylvania’s place on

Battleship Row was the USS Arizona. McDavid is said to have felt a bit guilty about

this, especially since two of his best friends served aboard Arizona and were

killed during the attack. Pennsylvania was not spared, though, and was

# Heroes killed in action at former Hickam Field honored

Story and photo by  
Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-  
Hickam Public Affairs

Of the original 189 Army Air Forces Airmen killed at Hickam Field during the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks on military installations on Oahu, only 92 remained on the island after the war.

A group of Airmen, teenagers, spouses and a Sailor volunteered to render honors to these war heroes in a gesture of remembrance Dec. 2 at the National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The group placed an American flag and a handmade lei at each gravesite and gave a salute.

“To be amongst heroes is a great honor,” said Jessie Higa, a volunteer Hickam historian and president of Hickam History Club. “This is something that we did to let them know we haven’t forgotten.”

“Though 189 died, where only 92 gravesites remain here might seem insignificant compared to the Navy numbers, these men still gave their lives,” she said.

The project started last year when Higa and a group of teenagers from



Capt. Andy Stewart, 15th Wing commander’s Action Group, salutes a gravesite after placing an American flag and handmade lei Dec. 2, at the National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu.

joint base came up with a plan to start a community service project. Higa taught them how to make the lei, gathered all the flags, and set the day to mark the 70th anniversary. For the second year in a row, flags are now marking the gravesites of those fallen Airmen.

“When your heart is in the right place, you’ll always be able to find people to partner with you to make it more impactful,” Higa said.

“I never do it alone. It’s contagious. People want to be a part of something that’s bigger than themselves.”

This experience for the teenagers, continuing what they started last year, has opened their eyes to the sacrifices of the men serving in Hawaii during WWII.

“This is an extra step of recognition for these men,” said Chris Friedrichs, son of Col. Paul Friedrichs, Pacific Air Forces com-

mand surgeon. “Everyone knows what happened at Pearl Harbor, especially on the Arizona and the big ships. Nobody really realizes that it’s so much more than just Pearl Harbor.”

According to historical accounts, the Japanese attacking forces descended on the island of Oahu in two separate waves. At 7:55 a.m., the first wave began their bombardment on Hickam Field. En route to Hickam, they hit other installations around the

island, including Wheeler Field, Dillingham Field and Bellows Field, in an attempt to eliminate any aircraft, clearing the way for the heavy bombers to attack Battleship Row unimpeded.

“These men weren’t trying to be heroes,” said Emma McLeod, daughter of Brig. Gen. Mark McLeod, U.S. Pacific Command Headquarters.

Bombs fell on the flightline, barracks and hangars with a purpose that Sunday morning. Firearms and ammunition were locked away during the first wave.

Planes were lined up on the runway and most service members were still sleeping in the barracks or in their homes. Thirty minutes later, the second wave descended on the remainder of the airfields and concentrated on the ships moored in the harbor.

“When these young men enlisted, most in their early to mid-20s, they may not have known what they were signing up for but on that morning, they gave it everything they could to do what they knew was right for their country and fellowmen,” Friedrichs said.

The first shots reportedly fired during the attack on Hickam were from a .45

struck by a 500-pound bomb. Still, McDavid kept to his battle station.

“He stood his watch bravely for three hours as Japanese fighter planes and bombers attacked,” said Capt. Larry Scruggs, deputy commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, who also spoke at the ceremony. “He embodied the spirit of the U.S. Navy.”

McDavid served in the Pacific for the remainder of the war, eventually achieving the rank of electronics technician first class petty officer.

“He was entrusted to repair some of the Navy’s most complex and secret technologies,” said Scruggs.

After his discharge from the Navy, McDavid settled in Pacifica, Calif. and worked at the San Francisco Naval Shipyard for 32 years. For the last 12 years of his life, he resided in Sacramento. He died in March of this year.

Also attending the ceremony last Tuesday were McDavid’s widow Metha, his daughter Linda and granddaughter Christine. Chaplain Lt. James Ragain, Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel, presided over the services.

“I just have so much appreciation for Capt. Scruggs, Chaplain Ragain and of course Jim Taylor, who was so helpful and reassuring,” said Metha McDavid. “The ceremony was beyond what I expected ... I felt proud to be an American.”

caliber pistol as an Airman ran out of an aircraft hangar firing into the air at the attacking planes.

“That’s what these guys did. They’re laying here now because that is what they had. They picked up whatever they got and did the best they could and paid the price,” said Navy Lt. Zach Simms of U.S. Pacific Fleet.

When the volunteers were finished with the project at Punchbowl, red, white and blue dotted the grassy fields of the cemetery. U.S. Air Force Maj. Jasmine Simms, Pacific Air Forces, stood at attention and saluted each of the markers they placed to honor the fallen.

“It is just a small gesture that we as Americans can do to take time for our fallen,” said Master Sgt. Kevin Taggerty, 735th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. “This was their 9/11, and I am sure they would be proud to know that our Americans and our military still honor them 71 years later, especially having our youth out there leading the charge.”

“Officer or enlisted, at the end of the day, these were regular guys like you and me, minding their own business,” Simms said.



# Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



Lt. Patrick Magno (left) and Lt. j.g. David Indiveri (right) from the “Easyriders” of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light recently visited Enchanted Lakes Elementary School to assist with a kindergarten lesson about naval helicopters for Veterans Day.

Photo by Kaitlin Indiveri

Maxine Suivaaia (center left), inventory control associate with the Hickam Exchange, completes a registration form during a marrow donor program drive at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Nov. 29. Master Sgt. Michael Vonahnen (center right), First Sergeant, 15th Medical Group; Staff Sgt. Krystal Dittmer (left), 747th Communications Squadron; and Senior Airman Jaclyn Malbrough (right), 15th Aerospace Medicine Squadron assisted with the drive.

U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.



Col. Sean DeWitt (right), 51st Fighter Wing vice commander, and Lt. Col. Roland Secody (left), 51st Civil Engineer Squadron commander, explain the purpose of a newly constructed tower project to Gen. Herbert J. Carlisle, Pacific Air Forces commander, during his visit to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea on Nov. 29. The project is still in the construction stage with an estimated completion date of March 2013.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Craig Cisek

Nurjan Sakagawa and retired Air Force Master Sgt. Ryan Sakagawa hold the keys and title to their new car at the main entrance to the Hickam BXtra. Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, presented the keys Nov. 29. Nurjan won the Welch's Smart Car after entering a contest sponsored by Promotion in Motion Inc., Welch's Fruit Snacks at the exchange.

U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.



Lt. j.g. Jami M. Talbott, assistant supply officer aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90), provides a tour of the ship to cast members of the touring Broadway musical “Wicked.” The cast members met with Sailors and were shown areas of the ship including mess decks, medical, the bridge and combat operations.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



Coming of Age: From Innocence to Valor

# Ray Emory: A legacy of service, honor, heroics

Bill Doughty

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Ray Emory is a tough guy. Seventy-one years ago aboard USS Honolulu (CL 48) – without waiting for permission or orders – he responded to the attack of Dec. 7, 1941 by rushing to one of the ship’s 50-calibre machine guns, helping break into a locked box of ammunition, and opening fire on attacking enemy planes.

Ray Emory is a tough guy who cares about former shipmates. He champions the full identification, where possible, of “unknowns” – service members killed on that “Day of Infamy” who were buried in unnamed graves. He’s been described as tenacious, brusque, even intimidating. He’s tough when it comes to historical accuracy, full accounting and helping military families.

But when talk turns to his childhood and life just before the Navy, his toughness cracks a bit.

Ray Emory was a child of the Great Depression. He grew up in a simpler time, a time of relative innocence, but a time in the early 1930s of general hunger and lack of work.

“No way can I describe the Depression,” Emory said, speaking to his close friend Jim Taylor, Navy Region Hawaii’s volunteer liaison for Pearl Harbor survivors. Ray’s eyes cloud. His voice softens and deepens.

“When the Depression hit, my mother and dad didn’t have a penny. There were seven of us and an eighth on the way,” he remembered.

His dad lost his leg in a hunting accident.

At the age of 10, Ray got on his old bicycle and sold newspapers.

“Every penny I made went to supporting the family,” he said.

The Depression slammed the United States after the stock market crashed in 1929. Unemployment rose from 3.2 percent in 1929 to 26.7 percent by 1934. The boom of the 1920s, when Peoria sparkled with new jazz, “flappers” and soda fountain parlors, turned to a bust along with the rest of the nation.

Exports shut down as markets and cash flow disappeared and the impact continued to spread. Worldwide depression planted seeds of fascism and ultra-nationalism in Germany and Japan, leading to social unrest, assassinations and acts of regional terrorism.

In Asia, Imperial Japan turned to Manchuria for raw materials and coal liquefaction facilities. By the end of the 30s, the emboldened Japanese military set its sights on Indochina for oil imports and colonization.

Back in Peoria in the early 1930s, Emory continued working throughout his early school years, including a stint at the A&P grocery store, before he considered the Navy.

Meanwhile, the effects of the Depression continued to transform the world.

The peace and prosperity of the 1920s after World War I had given way to open hate, fear and warfare in Europe and Asia in the 30s. Germany and Japan embraced militarism and territorial expansion.

“The war in Europe was getting hot,” Emory remembered. “They were about to pass the draft law. I swung by the post office and talked to the Navy recruiter.”

“When I got home – I can still see it. My dad was reading the newspaper, and my mother was darning socks. I told them, ‘I joined the Navy today.’ My dad put down his newspaper and said, ‘You did what?’”

Ray first served aboard the light cruiser USS Savannah (CL 42). He still has an original menu from 1941 – beans and cornbread twice a week. It cost the Navy 46 cents per day to feed Sailors then.



U.S. Navy photo by Bill Doughty

Ray Emory discusses history with Jim Taylor, Navy Region Hawaii volunteer liaison for Pearl Harbor survivors, Nov. 6 at Emory’s home.

Savannah headed through the Panama Canal and into the Pacific in 1939, arriving in Pearl Harbor. Emory knew how he wanted to serve.

“I asked young Ensign Burgan if I could become a gun striker,” Ray reflected.

Burgan had a lasting effect on Ray.

“I told him once ‘I can’t do something.’ He made me sit down,” Emory said. “That ensign told me, ‘The word can’t—it’s not in the dictionary.’”

Ray began two weeks of training at Fort Weaver, but USS Savannah left for the Atlantic without him, so he ended up aboard another light cruiser in Pearl Harbor, USS Honolulu (CL 48) – which is where he was on Dec. 7, 1941.

In the months leading up to Dec. 7, the United States enforced an embargo on Japan’s importation of oil, leading to a total embargo on all goods except cotton and food. America joined other countries and took a strong stand against Japan for its incursions into China and Southeast Asia.

Ray Emory was aware of the storm clouds of war growing but was still caught completely by surprise when the attacks came on Dec. 7.

“I was sitting at my bunk reading the morning newspaper at the time General Quarters sounded,” said Ray. “I thought, ‘This was a hell of a time to be sounding GQ.’ The 4 to 8 watch was still eating breakfast.”

He hurriedly folded his

newspaper and stuck it under his bunk straps.

“I hit the ladder in about two steps,” Ray remembered. “When topside, I heard machine gun fire. My thought was, ‘This is a really good drill.’”

Ray raced to his battle station – the .50 caliber machine guns.

“I had pulled the canvas cover off of one of the machine guns and about halfway off the second machine gun when a torpedo plane passed our fantail. I stopped pulling the cover off and watched the track of the torpedo that hit one of the battleships. Again, in my mind, the torpedo was not supposed to explode like that (if it was a drill). In seconds, another torpedo plane passed our fantail and I saw the big red ball.”

At that moment, Ray knew the attack was real. The attacking planes were Imperial Japanese.

“My thoughts were, ‘Who declared war on whom and where did they come from to get here so fast.’”

He continued following his training and instincts.

“Upon breaking the ammo box open, the machine guns were manned,” Emory said. “Anything that was close enough to fire at we fired, but who knows who hit who.”

Ray continued to fight that day and in the months and years that followed.

He participated in engagements in the Aleutians, Solomons, Battle of Tassafaronga and consolida-



(Above) Ray Emory points out the location of the light cruiser USS Honolulu (CL 48) on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by Pedro Valdez

(Right) Chief Ray Emory at sea in 1945.

Photo courtesy of Ray Emory

tion of the Southern Solomons. He served in seven invasions across the Pacific: Tarawa, Kwajalein, Saipan, Guam, Leyte Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, Iwo Jima. He also participated in the atmospheric nuclear tests in Bikini Atoll in 1946.

Ray Emory left the Navy that same year as a chief boatswain’s mate, though he’d earlier been recommended for a commission as an ensign. At the time, he declined because he didn’t want to leave his ship.

After the war Ray went back to school, attending Bradley University and the University of Washington, where he received his degree in architecture. He worked in mechanical engineering and construction in the Pacific Northwest until he retired.

Emory returned to Hawaii in the mid 1980s and married his wife Virginia. Since then he has rededicated himself to accurate documentation of what happened at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and to the proper accounting of shipmates killed on that day.

Matching burial records with dental records and, where available, DNA, Emory has worked with JPAC (the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command) and others to identify or help identify former “unknowns.” He has brought closure and



peace to families: Hembree, Lehman, Livingston, Vanderpool and others.

Ray Emory is a tough guy with a tender side, devoted to the memory of shipmates and innocence lost. He survived the Great Depression

and the attack on Pearl Harbor, and he helped win a lasting peace in the Pacific.

“There hasn’t been a day gone by in my life that I haven’t thought of Dec. 7, in one way or another, including today,” he said.



# Shipyard ‘produces’ first facility in modernization plan

David Tomiyama

*Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility Public Affairs*

Production took a step forward at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility with the grand opening Nov. 28 of a newly completed, two-story production services support facility.

The \$15.8 million building is the first project to complete in the shipyard’s 27- year facilities modernization plan. Numerous guests representing Hawaii’s congressional delegation, the chamber of commerce, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, Manson-Nan Hawaii Joint Venture and other organizations attended the traditional Hawaiian *maile lei* untying.

Walt Kaneakua, executive assistant for military affairs for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, read a message addressed from the senator to the shipyard audience.

“America must have the best effort you can give, and this building will enhance your abilities to achieve and deliver that best effort,” said Kaneakua, reading the note from Inouye.

“People, not buildings, make our nation great, but people with proper equipment and support take the United States to visionary distances.”

The production services support facility in building 1916 provides approximately 36,685 square feet to the structural shop (with shop 11 shipfitting and shop 26 welding) and the structural community of prac-



U.S. Navy photo by Marshall Fukuki

Capt. Brian Osgood, commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, and Walt Kaneakua, executive assistant for military affairs for U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, untie a traditional Hawaiian *maile lei*.

tice. Other occupants include structural engineering and quality assurance (non-destructive testing).

The ground-breaking took place July 6, 2011 with construction beginning five days later. The new facility centralizes structural trades personnel in a permanent building close to waterfront projects. It eliminates lengthy and time-consum-

ing travel between the dry docks and building 155, the previous home of the structural shop.

The temporary, costly work structures that were constantly being set up and removed are now a thing of the past with the new building. The modern facility gives engineers and workers a satellite tool shop, light shop work area, administrative offices, briefing and training

rooms, secure storage areas, information technology center, and lunch and break rooms.

“This building reduces costs, allows us to shed unnecessary infrastructure and gets us closer to the work, the dry docks,” said Capt. Brian Osgood, PHNSY commander.

“This building was also designed with next generation Virginia-class submarines in mind as we become the Virginia-class submarine center of excellence.”

In addition to improving work efficiency and productivity, the support facility incorporates energy and water conservation features. The building was constructed within Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) standards and is currently awaiting LEED silver certification.

LEED is an internationally-recognized “green” building certification system. It provides building owners and operators a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

Some of the environmentally friendly features of the building include a photovoltaic system to convert sunlight into energy, light wells to provide ambient lighting to second-floor interior spaces, and low-flow toilet and shower fixtures, said Stephen Sasaki, shipyard production facilities and equipment manager.

The production services support facility is the first project completion of the overall facilities modernization plan sched-

uled to finish in 2035. The shipyard’s goals with modernization are to provide the right facilities to increase efficiency, improve safety and the quality of work life for shipyarders while performing the mission of ship repairs.

These goals can be achieved with execution of the \$600-\$800 million plan which includes: 10 new construction projects totaling 415,000 square feet, reducing 50 temporary or re-locatable structures totaling 760,000 square feet, consolidating and collocating numerous functions across the shipyard, increasing capacity for two wet berths, and installing an intermediate caisson to extend capacity in dry dock one.

According to Sasaki, design has already started on two military construction projects (MCON), P-320 (submarine production and training facility) and P-270 (dry dock two starboard waterfront facility). These projects, if included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Congressional budget, will award and start construction during FY14.

Major projects in progress include renovating building 9 for the nuclear engineering and planning department, overhauling window repairs on the structural shop in building 155, the dewatering and drain pumps in dry docks one and four, and the dry docks one and two ship support services project (MCON P-302) located at the head of dry dock two. A project that has been awarded but not yet started construction is the inside machine shop in building 67A window repairs.

## PACAF announces change to ‘Blues Monday’ policy

**Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs**

Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III asked his major command commanders on Nov. 29 to decide which uniform their Airmen will wear in order

to better perform their mission.

Upon receiving the CSAF guidance, Pacific Air Forces Commander Gen. Herbert “Hawk” Carlisle announced that blues are no longer mandated on Mondays and that uniform

wear in PACAF will be at the discretion of the wing and numbered Air Force commanders.

“The NAFs and other staffs may set the uniform policy for their respective headquarters,” he said in an email to the PACAF

commanders.

“For the PACAF Headquarters, blues will not be mandated on Mondays. Uniform selection will be commensurate with the expected duty that day, or as directed by the workplace supervisors.”

# GOT SPORTS

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# Tower Lighting Celebration features Tops in Blue

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-  
Hickam Public Affairs

Air Force Entertainment and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam welcomed Tops in Blue at the Freedom Tower on Nov. 30 as part of the free 43rd annual Tower Lighting Celebration.

Festivities at the celebration also included crafts and activities for the children, photos with Santa, and the Freedom Tower lit up with twinkling multicolored bulbs in the twilight.

Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter, an Airman previously assigned to the 15th Comptroller Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, returned to sing as a member of the Tops in Blue performance team for the event.

Tops in Blue is an all-active duty, U.S. Air Force special unit made up of amateur per-



formers selected for their entertainment abilities.

Celebrating more than 50 years in existence, Tops in Blue is one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind.

Composed of 35 to 40 musicians, dancers, and technicians, their primary purpose is to perform for military personnel and their families throughout the world.

However, the group's popularity has also made them one of America's goodwill ambassadors around the globe.

Maj. Al Reilly (later a retired colonel)

created the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest in 1953 to recognize talented Airmen in various categories, ranging from comedy, drama, and vocal and instrumental groups. Reilly then selected the top talent from the competition and produced a show with a troupe of the best Air Force entertainers, which ultimately became known as Tops in Blue.

*Editor's note: See page B-4 for additional photos of Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter a 15th Wing Airman who is currently performing with Tops in Blue.*





# Volunteer coaches are needed to help youth sports

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

For years, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) youth sports has served military members with a diverse program that has helped countless children learn the time-honored lessons and values offered from athletic participation.

While MWR has done a fantastic job of providing the perfect framework to service military families and their children, Youth Sports and Fitness Director Jim Cosper said that it couldn't be done without the dedicated assistance of Sailors, Airmen and government workers who lend a hand as volunteer coaches.

"It helps out a great deal and not only for the children, but for them as well," said Cosper, who oversees a vast youth program that includes baseball, basketball, soccer, volleyball and flag football among many other activities. "I know a lot of the Sailors on base are away from their families, and this gives them an outlet to participate in a larger family, and that's Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH)," he said.

Each year the call goes out to the service community for volunteer coaches to oversee the many youth sports teams that start from age five and continue through early teens.

Like so many volunteers before him, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Richard McKee, a star receiver on USS Russell (DDG 59) intramural flag football team, has stepped forward to offer assistance on a U12 basketball squad.

He said that while volunteering also helps out his career, coaching provides the perfect opportunity to help guide and mentor children on

sports and life principles.

Plus, he added, it's a great way to be of service to the many military families on and off base.

"It's definitely a way to give back to the community and kids," he said. "I really believe that coaches are a big influence in kids' lives. Youth sports are one way for kids to stay active and keep healthy."

In addition to helping children stay fit, Cosper pointed out that MWR Youth Sports has prided itself in setting up programs that are very child friendly.

Unlike organizations that pressure kids to win championships, Cosper said that while there is room for the competitive spirit, MWR instructs all of its volunteer coaches to stress fun and participation above everything else.

"We're trying to develop all the characteristics and guiding principles to help them develop into better people," he said. "We really appreciate the coaches getting involved and helping to develop that and create that spirit within an individual."

Army Maj. Tim Rustard, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, has volunteered as a coach in youth baseball and basketball over the past two years.

He said that he has loved the opportunity to teach kids the fundamentals of sports and thinks that the focus on fun is the right way to go with children.

"Being able to pass on the good techniques and fundamentals is all I want to teach," he said. "This (having fun) is perfect for this age group. They are going to be under so much pressure in junior high and senior high, so at this age, you just need an opportunity to play."

Cosper, who took over the position after Joe Stanczyk left the



While often appearing blurred in the background, volunteer coaches for MWR Youth Sports have provided a great service in the guidance and mentoring of military children. There is a constant need for volunteer coaches at MWR Youth Sports. Call 473-0789 or visit the MWR website at [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

islands a few months ago, said that he has really enjoyed watching the kids grow within each sport.

He also expressed how much he appreciates the help of parents

and volunteer coaches, who make it all happen.

"It's all volunteer, so the parents get involved as well as the Sailors and Airman," he said. "It's a great community here on base."

For more information about youth sports or on becoming a volunteer coach, call MWR Youth Sports at 473-0789.

Also, visit the MWR website at [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).



## Bengals sink their teeth into championship title

Members of the Bengals kids flag football team at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam won the ages 10 and under Termite League championship Dec. 1 for the fall 2012 season. The Bengals' coach is David Beck and the team beat the Titans in the championship game. Both teams had already played and won three games to reach the final.

Photos courtesy of Rachel Carter





# Battle of SNAFU ball clubs won by White

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

It's not unusual when the top teams from each division square off for the league crown, but it is something special when the combatants come from the same club.

In the grand finale of the Winter Baseball League playoffs held on Dec. 1, the SNAFU Gold, winners of the National Division pennant, faced sister squad SNAFU White, champs of the American Division title at Hickam Softball Complex, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Both teams finished off the regular season undefeated with 9-0 records and had won two playoffs matchups before clashing head-to-head in the championship game.

In the showdown, retired Coast Guard veteran Rick Hayes, pitcher for the White, held off the hard-hitting Gold for six innings before hanging on to secure a complete-game victory for the White.

"I knew they (Gold) had the potential to hit home runs," Hayes acknowledged. "But I think they were swinging for the fences and that saved us."

Relying on his knuckleball and curve, Hayes admitted that an expansion of the strike zone by the umpire and familiarity with Gold hitters also aided his effort.

"The umpire was letting us have the high pitches, and that helped us out a lot," he noted.

While the Gold came into the showdown with the reputation of having a more prolific batting order, it was the White that built up a small 5-2 lead heading into the fifth inning.

The advantage went up to four in the bottom of the fifth when Senior Chief Master-at-Arms Chris Ray singled, and then moved to



Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) (SS) Chris Herman of the SNAFU White softball team ducks out of the way of a throw during the Winter Softball League championship final against the SNAFU Gold. The White beat the Gold, 6-4, to win the league crown.



The SNAFU softball club joins forces for a group photo at Hickam Softball Complex after the club's White and Gold teams squared off for the Winter Softball League championship.

third on two throwing errors before coming home on a sacrifice fly with one out by Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Mario Lopez.

Up by a score of 6-2 heading into the top of the sev-

enth and final inning, Hayes needed only three outs to get the win and appeared headed for an easy inning, when he retired the first two batters on a fly out and ground out.

However, after lying dor-

mant for nearly seven innings, the Gold bats suddenly awoke to add some drama to the game.

Outfielder Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 3rd Class Zac Metz got on with a triple and was

brought home on a towering moon shot over the leftfield fence by Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Douglas Minute for a two-run blast to make the score 6-4.

After putting another

runner in scoring position, Hayes got the final out on a long fly ball to end the threat and game.

The win ended a long day for the White, which nearly dropped their semifinal game against No Skillz only minutes before the title face-off.

Down by a score of 11-1 and 11-6 in the last inning, the White rallied to tie the score against No Skillz before crossing home six times in their last at-bat for the win.

Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) (SS) Chris Herman said he believes that the quick turnaround helped his team, but added that it wasn't easy.

"It's nice to win," he said. "I enjoyed it, especially after coming back because we were down against No Skillz. We beat two good teams to win it."

Meanwhile, Gold pitcher retired Chief Information Systems Technician Lloyd Shoemaker said that you just can't win if you can't hit.

Normally a power-hitting club, Shoemaker said that the ball just didn't carry and that spelled trouble for his team.

"You got to come out and hit," he stated. "I don't think the ball was carrying as well. I don't know what it was. We're more of a home-run-hitting team. I'd take a base-hitting team over a home-run-hitting team any day."

Still, even in defeat, Shoemaker said overall it was a great day for the SNAFU softball club.

"It's a win-win for SNAFU," he said. "Both teams finish first and second in the league. It's definitely a good statement for our team to be able to split it apart and still do well."

But of course, for the champs, coming out on top is much sweeter than second.

"Yes, it does (feel good)," said Hayes. "Especially to beat them (Gold). That's even better."

## Special Olympics Hawaii athletes compete in Holiday Classic at JBPHH

Story and photo by  
MC2 Sean Furey

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West,  
Detachment Hawaii

More than 800 athletes with intellectual disabilities, along with the guidance of 250 coaches and more than 1,000 volunteers, competed in basketball, bowling and bocce during the 2012 Special Olympics Hawaii Holiday Classic at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

During the Holiday Classic, the athletes had an opportunity to enjoy many special events, including the opening and closing ceremonies, Olympic town and the victory dance.

"Our annual Holiday Classic is not just a competition to mark the end of the fall season," said Dan Epstein, Special Olympics Hawaii vice president of sports.

"It's also a celebration



Athletes compete at basketball during the Special Olympics Hawaii Holiday Classic at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam. Approximately 800 athletes with intellectual disabilities, along with the guidance of 250 coaches and more than 1,000 volunteers competed in events such as basketball, bowling and bocce.

for the athletes who have spent months preparing for this sporting event and are able to compete with other athletes from across the state."

JBPHH support included ceremonial assistance for the opening such as a performance by the Pacific Fleet Band Quintet and participation by the Navy color guard and chaplain.

"Many people don't know that these 880 athletes train vigorously every year starting in September to compete in area and regional competitions in October and November to qualify for the Holiday Classic," said Epstein. "Their dedication and hard work are really inspiring."

Special Olympics Inc. was established in December 1968 as a non-profit organization to provide year-round training and athletic competition. The contests are held in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in the general community.

## Steps can be taken when planning holiday parties to maximize safety

Navy Personnel Command  
Public Affairs

Navy families need to ensure they're planning for the after-party when considering plans for their holiday get-togethers, according to Navy officials.

With the holiday season here, Navy leaders want holiday party hosts to make plans for guests to get home safely afterward.

From Dec. 24, 2011 to Jan. 2, 2012, there were 33 driving while intoxicated incidents involving Sailors.

"Depending on the laws of your state, if you host a party and serve alcohol, you could potentially be legally liable if an intoxicated party guest drives away and gets in an

accident," said Dorice Favorite, director, Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Office (NADAP). "There are some steps you can take before, during, and after your party to keep everyone safe."

They include:

- Prepare an overnight guest, or two-guest room, with air mattresses and sleeping bags.

- Always have taxi phone numbers handy.

- Make sure you know who the designated drivers are ahead of time, make sure the designated drivers have the keys, and ensure the designated drivers are parked where they are not blocked by other cars.

"If you plan activities like

party games, door prize drawings or a gift exchange, you'll engage your guests," said Favorite. "They'll be less likely to drink too much and they'll remember the great time they had. You should also provide plenty of food to keep your guests from drinking on an empty stomach. Offer non-alcoholic beverages or mocktails for designated drivers and others who prefer not to drink alcohol."

During the party make sure the designated drivers don't drink and be aware of who gets too drunk to drive. If someone has had too much to drink, make sure they have a safe ride home. Don't let anyone leave without your knowledge.

As the host, have fun, but

not too much fun. To be a responsible host, you should stay within your limits in order to make sure your guests stay within theirs. Close the bar 90 minutes before the party ends and serve a great dessert treat with coffee. Remember, only time sobers someone who has been drinking.

"If, despite your efforts, some of your guests have had too much to drink — take control," said Favorite. "Drive them home, arrange for a ride with another guest who is sober, call a taxi, or insist they stay over. A party should be a good time and not something you regret hosting."

For more tips on being responsible hosts, visit NADAP at [www.nadap.navy.mil](http://www.nadap.navy.mil).

## Road reconstruction work to take place on Ford Island Boulevard

Reconstruction work will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10 to 26 along Ford Island Boulevard between Saratoga Boulevard and the Ford Island Bridge.

This is a partial lane closure, and at least one lane will be open for traffic access.

Advance warning signs will be posted showing "road work ahead" and personnel with traffic flags will be on site. Motorists are advised to observe the warning signs and reduce their speed. Sidewalks in the work area will be closed.



# Undefeated Port Royal wins big before playoffs

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

USS Port Royal (CG 73) fell behind early in the game, but stormed back to score 24 unanswered points and beat USS Texas (SSN 775) Lower Level Mafia, 31-13, Dec. 1, in an Afloat Division intramural flag football game at Ward Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickman.

Down by a score of 7-0, Port Royal battled back behind quarterback Seaman Michael Elzen's three touchdown tosses and a pick-six by defensive back Electronics Technician 1st Class Adam Rodriguez to take a 24-7 lead en route to the victory.

The win completed a perfect regular season for Port Royal, which ended with a record of 9-0, while the LLM finished off their year just outside of the bubble with a 6-4 mark.

Against Texas, Port Royal gave onlookers a positive postseason preview by combining an efficient offense with an aggressive defense to gain the runaway victory.

Still, Elzen cautioned that while Port Royal played well against Texas, the team must continue to get better in order to bring home the base championship.

Port Royal will begin their quest for the title in a first-round playoff contest on Dec. 8, starting at 11 a.m., against the American Division's 647th Force Support Squadron (647 FSS) and their double-threat quarterback Staff Sgt. Jason Price.

"We're never satisfied," Elzen said. "We want to develop on each single play of the game and we got to keep on going. There is always room for improvement."

Although the final score was a blowout, the start of the game had all the elements of a shootout, when Texas took the opening snap and marched 65 yards on only four plays to steal a quick 7-0 lead.

Facing third and nine to go for a first down at his own 31, Texas quarterback Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Jesse Olstad looked



downfield and hit Torpedoman's Mate 3rd Class Mark Williams, who turned it upfield to score on a 47-yard pass-and-catch for a touchdown.

However, things didn't turn out as well on the LLM's next series, as Operations Specialist Seaman Alonso Yopez picked off an Olstad pass to give Port Royal a fresh set of downs at their own 24.

On the second play of the drive, Elzen connected with Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Gilmore on a 43-yard play that placed the ball on the Texas eight-yard line.

Later, Elzen tossed a pass to Seaman Casei Garrison for a touchdown to draw to within a

point at 7-6.

Next on first down from their own 25, Texas saw their one-point lead erased when Rodriguez intercepted a pass from Olstad and returned it to the house for a 12-7 lead.

Then just before halftime, Elzen upped the team's advantage to 11 by engineering a five-play, 52-yard march to pay dirt with the final 21 yards coming on a pass play from the QB to Gas Turbine System (Mechanical) 2nd Class Robert Jenkins.

In the second half, it was more of Port Royal as the team immediately posted its fourth touchdown in a row by taking the opening drive 65 yards on nine plays.

Gilmore, who was playing in his final game for Port Royal, made a one-yard catch for six and a 24-7 lead.

While Texas came back to score on a 39-yard pass from Olstad to Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Ruben Chechik, Port Royal wrapped it up on one final touchdown pass.

In the last scoring play, Elzen went over the top and connected with Fire Controlman 3rd Class David Mickevich for 55 yards and a TD.

Olstad congratulated Port Royal for their win, but added that, with nothing to play for, the LLM found it difficult to rally their forces.

"It was really kind of hard for us getting up for this game," Olstad

admitted. "We kind of knew going into this game that we really had nothing to play for. The playoffs were out of the question at that point. But they're (Port Royal) a good team. We just didn't play well today."

Yopez, who headed a tough Port Royal defense with two interceptions, said that although the team finished undefeated in the regular season, no one is taking anything for granted as it heads for the playoffs.

"We've got to step it up in practice, play harder and make no mental mistakes," he stated. "We'll play like its zero-zero, keep our minds clear and do our job. I think we can win it all."

## 15th Wing Airman returns with Tops in Blue

Senior Airman Briana Hofreiter (she is shown at right in both photos.), an Airman previously assigned to the 15th Comptroller Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, sings as a member of the 'Tops in Blue' performance team Nov. 30. The Tops in Blue have been among the first entertainment groups to travel into Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Qatar and Kyrgyzstan to raise military morale.

U.S. Air Force photos by Sr A Lauren Main





PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM Maniawa Nanea LEISURE

Morale Welfare & Recreation

**BREAKFAST, BOWLING WITH SANTA**  
The Naval Station Bowling Center is holding a children’s Breakfast and Bowl with Santa event from 9 to 11 a.m. Sunday. The cost is \$8 per child from ages 2-12 years and includes one game of bowling and shoe rental, plus pancakes or rice, scrambled eggs and drink. Space is limited to a maximum of 30 children. Today is the last day to register. FMI: 473-2651.

**YOGA BY THE SEA**  
There will be a free yoga session from 6 to 7 p.m. tonight at Hickam Harbor lawn adjacent to Sam Choy’s. FMI: 448-2214.

**SANTA’S ‘DIVE-IN’ MOVIE**  
Hickam Pool 2 will host a free screening of “Frosty the Snowman” and “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” from 5:50 to 7:30 p.m. tonight. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. FMI: 448-2223.

**FREE GOLF CLINIC**  
The Navy-Marine Golf Course is hosting a free golf clinic at 1 p.m. Saturday. FMI: 471-0142.

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**  
Preschool story time is held from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Hickam Library. The theme for the day is holiday stories with special guest reader Santa. FMI: 449-8299.

**HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS TROLLEY TOURS**  
The annual Honolulu City Lights Trolley Tours includes a trolley ride through Honolulu’s city streets to see the buildings dressed up for the holiday season. A stop at Honolulu Hale (City Hall) provides a chance to stroll among the exhibits and decorations. Daily departures from Information, Travel and Tickets-Hickam are at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Dec. 9 - 23 (no tour Dec. 22). Departures from Bloch Arena are at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m , Dec. 14, 16 - 18, 20 - 23. The cost is \$15 per person for ages 4 and older, free for children 3 and under. Seating is limited. Children 3 years and under must sit on an adult’s lap (one child per adult). No large strollers (umbrella-type okay). FMI: 473-0792 or 448-2295.

**OAHU HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**  
There will be a tour of Oahu from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Dec. 6-27. The tour features major sights Oahu, including Hanauma Bay, Pali Lookout, and National Memorial Cemetary of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The cost is \$45 for adults, \$40 for children and free for children 2 and under who sit on an adult’s lap. Lunch is included. Departures are from ITT-Hickam office. FMI: 448-2295.

**HICKAM HISTORICAL TOUR**  
A historical tour of the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Fridays, Dec. 7-29. The cost is \$55 for adults, \$45 for children ages 3-11 years old, and free for children 2 years and younger. Departures are from ITT-Hickam and Royal Alaka’i Lodge. FMI: 448-2295.

For more information on events, visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com).

Community Calendar

December

**12 ~** A basewide cleanup of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will be held from 8 a.m. to noon. FMI: 471-3521.

**14, 15, 16 ~** Free, 30-minute Pearl Harbor holiday lights tours will be held at 6:15 p.m. starting at Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. For reservations, email [holidayharborlightstour@gmail.com](mailto:holidayharborlightstour@gmail.com). Donations of nonperishable and canned goods will be accepted for local charities. FMI: 422-3399

**15 ~** The annual Breakfast with Santa event will be held starting at 8 a.m. at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange food court lanai. The event for authorized patrons will also include young magicians, balloon art, and holiday arts and crafts. The cost of a child’s ticket is \$12, and an adult ticket is \$5. FMI: 423-3287.

**15 ~** Santa will be arriving on jet ski from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to the shores at Bellows Air Force Station. Participants can bring their camera for a photo with Santa. The event will take place behind pavilion A on the beach. FMI: 259-4112.

**16-19 ~** All of the games of the upcoming Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) Basketball Classic will be played at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam’s Bloch Arena. Admission to the games is free. The games are: Dec. 16, 2 p.m., HPU versus Menlo College; Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Menlo College versus Upper Iowa; Dec. 19, 2 p.m., HPU versus Upper Iowa. FMI: [www.goseawarriors.com](http://www.goseawarriors.com).

At a glance

Reconstruction work will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10 to 26 along Ford Island Boulevard between Saratoga Boulevard and the Ford Island Bridge. This is a partial lane closure and at least one lane will be open for traffic access. Advance warning signs will be posted showing “road work ahead” and personnel with traffic flags will be on site. Motorists are advised to observe the warning signs and reduce their speed. Sidewalks in the work area will be closed.

Movie Showtimes



The Man with the Iron Fists (R)

This is an epic story of warriors, assassins and a lone outsider hero in 19th-century China who must unite to destroy the clan traitor who would destroy them all. Since his arrival in China’s Jungle Village, the town’s blacksmith has been forced by radical tribal factions to create elaborate tools of destruction. When the clans’ brewing war boils over, the stranger channels an ancient energy to transform himself into a human weapon. As he fights alongside iconic heroes and against soulless villains, one man must harness this power to become savior of his adopted people.

SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER

**TODAY**  
7:00 PM Looper (R)

**SATURDAY**  
2:30 PM Hotel Transylvania\* (3-D) (PG)  
4:45 PM Sinister (R)  
7:00 PM Argo (R)

**SUNDAY**  
2:30 PM Here Comes the Boom (PG)  
4:45 PM Taken 2 (PG-13)  
7:00 PM Argo (R)

\*\*\$1 for 3-D Glasses Rental

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

**TODAY**  
6:00 PM The Man with the Iron Fists (R)

**SATURDAY**  
4:00 PM Cars 2 (G)  
7:00 PM Cloud Atlas (R)

**SUNDAY**  
2:00 PM Cloud Atlas (R)





# 15th Medical Group team teaches Radford students about patient care

Story and photo by  
Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Five Airmen from the 15th Medical Group at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam traveled to Radford High School on Nov. 29 to teach the students how to provide medical care to a patient.

The activity provided students with real-life experience and training in the medical skills needed to effectively care for a patient.

A total of 35 students, who are studying health care as a potential career, participated in the training. During the session, they rotated through six stations including checking a patient's vital signs and providing adult CPR. The team also demonstrated obstetrics, wound care, emergency response and infant choking/CPR.

"I would just like to say how much we appreciate the 15th Medical Group at Hickam who has helped us over the past three years with training sessions here on campus and job shadow experiences at the clinic on base," said Cindy Mochida



Radford High School 10th grade student Matthew Fiala learns how to perform infant CPR from Master Sgt. Tikama Drummond during a lesson at Radford High School on Nov. 29.

Schrock, career and technical education coordinator at Radford High School.

Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Rootes organized the events to provide

instruction to the students. "The team that she brought to Radford on

Thursday provided hands-on experience for our students and their expertise and interaction with our students was amazing," Schrock said.

"We're here to give the students an idea of what it means to be involved in health care," Rootes said.

She was joined by Master Sgt. Tikama Drummond, Staff Sgts. Samantha Thomas and Tiffany Salcedo and Airman 1st Class Christopher Bowlds, who all instructed the students in medical techniques.

"I spent most of my life being taught, but I also like to teach because it helps you understand your craft better," Bowlds said.

"I think it's broadening their horizons, so they can see if they want to go in the medical field or if it's not for them," Thomas said.

During one of the lessons, Radford 10th grade student Matthew Fiala learned from Drummond how to perform CPR on an infant with the use of a life-like plastic doll.

"It's nice that they're willing to show everybody this," said Fiala. "I eventually plan to work for the government in the CDC [Centers

for Disease Control.] I read a book about viruses and became very interested," Fiala said. He added that his grandfather also worked in the medical field.

Drummond said she loved showing the students something new. "This instruction in the medical field gives them a quick-peek," she explained.

The students expressed gratitude to the Airmen for taking the time to visit with them personally.

"I like how they are so open with everything and explain it so we know what to do," said 11th grader Jhanella Capacia. She said she wants to join the Navy and work in the dental field.

The students' teacher, Tiffany Petersen of the health services pathway core program, agreed that the interaction with the Air Force medical team benefited the students immensely.

"They are able to take what they learn in the textbook and see it in a real-life situation. You can see the excitement on their faces," she said.

*(Editor's note: Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey contributed information for this article.)*

## Festival of lights to include ship/submarine holiday lighting contest

The annual Pearl Harbor Holiday Festival of Lights featuring unique ship and submarine lighting schemes will run from Dec. 14 to 25.

There will be both harbor boat tours as well as a contest between competing ships and submarines.

Holiday festival of lights 30-minute-long evening boat tours will also be offered free to the public. They will be given from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 14, 15 and 16, departing every 15 minutes from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

These tours are offered as a community service in partnership with the National Park Service and the Pearl City Lions Club. Although the harbor tours are free, canned good donations 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.

Due to enhanced security measures in effect at the visitor center, no backpacks, fanny packs, luggage, diaper bags, camera bags, purses, large camera/tripods or other items which provide concealment are allowed in the visitor center or aboard the boats.

Visitors are advised not to leave their valuables in their car. Cameras and video are allowed aboard for photos of the decorated ships. However, photographing security activities such as the



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

The annual ship/submarine holiday lighting contest will be judged on the evening of Dec. 17 with a 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.

For the sake of energy efficiency, holiday lights aboard ships and submarines should be turned off at 9 p.m. each night.

For more information, email michelle.l.downs@navy.mil or call 473-2920.



## Holiday events at JBPHH chapels scheduled

Chapel events at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to celebrate Christmas and the New Year will include:

**Catholic services**

- Dec. 11 - Advent penance service at 7 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel, building 1600).
- Dec. 12 - Communal penance service at 7 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center, building 1750).
- Dec. 24 - Catholic choir Christmas concert at 4:15 p.m., ( Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
- Dec. 24 - Family Mass at 5 p.m. (choirs – Christmas hymn at 4:15 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
- Dec. 24 - Children’s Christmas Mass/program at 5 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).
- Dec. 25 - Midnight Mass (Hickam Chapel Center).
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 10:30 a.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

- Dec. 31 - New Years Eve Mass at 5 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
- Jan. 1 - New Year’s Day Mass at 9 a.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
- Jan. 1 - New Year’s Day mass at 10:30 a.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).

**Protestant Services**

- Dec. 23 - General Protestant children’s Christmas program at 6 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).
  - Dec. 24 - General Protestant Christmas eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. (Hickam Chapel Center).
  - Dec. 24 - Christmas eve worship service at 7 p.m. (Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel).
  - Dec. 31 - Watch night service at 9 a.m. (Trinity Missionary Baptist Church - 3950 Pain Circle, Honolulu).
- Pearl Harbor Memorial regular schedule of services is daily Mass Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m., Saturday Mass at 5 p.m., Sunday Mass at 9 a.m., and Sunday Protestant worship service at 11 a.m.

## Forest City announces holiday activities for military communities

December will feature a variety of holiday activities at local military communities.

Forest City has registered with Toys for Tots to participate in a toy drive. Unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the Pearl City Peninsula and Camp Stover community centers Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Dec. 14, or at the Moanalua Community Center during business hours through Dec. 21.

Moanalua Terrace is holding its first annual creative ornament contest through Dec. 21. There are two age divisions: 4-9 and 10-15. Ornaments can be dropped off during business hours at Moanalua Community Center. Two winners will receive a prize, one in each age group.

There will be a photo session with Surfin’ Santa from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Pearl City Peninsula Community and from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 12 at the Halsey Terrace

Community Center. There will be free snacks available. Those attending the Halsey Terrace event are asked to bring their own cameras.

Halsey Terrace is holding an ornament contest. Residents are invited to visit Halsey Terrace Community Center from 2:30p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and decorate a holiday tree with their ornament. Please be sure to include your contact information on the back or attached to the “hanging device” so we know who contributed the ornament. The two winning categories will be for the “most creative” and for “originality.” Winners will be notified Dec. 13 and there will be a first and second prizes awarded. Ornaments will be returned after the contest.

Moanalua Community is looking for volunteers for a Christmas cleanup of the neighborhood to be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 14. Volunteers should meet at the Moanalua Community Center.

## My Favorite Photo...

AGCS (IDW/AW) Enrique Acosta, Wounded Warrior Pacific Trials lead coordinator, took this photo recently of sunset over the Battleship Missouri Memorial and USS Arizona Memorial. He took the photo during a white boat guided tour given to wounded warriors.

Photo by AGCS (IDW/AW) Enrique Acosta

Send your (non-posed and non-family photos) to [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com).





# Cookie Caper brings holiday cheer to Airmen

## Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The holidays will be a little cheerier for single Airmen living in unaccompanied housing at joint base and deployed Airmen and their families, thanks to the efforts of the 15th Wing and their annual Cookie Caper project.

Spouses and personnel from the 15th Operations Group also joined together with the Friends of Hickam to support operation Cookie Caper.

Donations of homemade cookies were provided by members of the local community, including 15th Wing spouses, elementary schools, Girl Scouts, banks and businesses. Elementary school children decorated each paper bag holding the homemade cookies.

“For most new Airmen,

this is their first holiday season away from home,” said Tonya Baldessari, 15th Wing Cookie Caper coordinator. “We want to give them a taste of home from their Air Force *ohana*.”

From snickerdoodles to sugar cookies, chocolate crinkles to macaroons, and bon-bons to lemon cookies, Airmen receiving the heart-felt gifts will experience homemade kindness that warms the heart.

“This holiday season, I will be almost 6,000 miles away from my family,” said A1C Tiffanie Gaines, Clay Hall resident. “I am looking forward to the Cookie Caper program because it provides an opportunity to celebrate the holidays with my friends and neighbors in the dorms.”

“My grandmother and I always make sugar cookies during the holidays,” said A1C Alexandria Wensink, Maysey Hall resident.



U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Col. Johnny Roscoe, commander of 15th Wing, delivers cookies to Angela Bennett, military spouse, for the 15th Wing Cookie Caper near the Wright Brother's Cafe at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Dec. 4. Cookie donations are being collected for single Airmen and to send to deployed Airmen this holiday season.

“Receiving homemade sugar cookies from the kind folks who took the time to bake them reminds me of home.”

In addition to providing cookies to single Airmen who reside in the dorms, 15th Wing first sergeants will send homemade cookies to deployed Airmen. Families of deployed Airmen will also be receiving gifts of homemade cookies.

The cookies have also been given to organizations such as Fisher House, Security Forces Squadron, Command Post, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hickam Chapel, Navy salvage divers, 15 Medical Group Pharmacy, fire department, golf course and USO at the Hickam Passenger Terminal.

“In total, we had a team of 59 volunteers and hundreds of bakers,” said Baldessari. “We were able to collect 1,878 dozen cookies, that is 21,858 total cookies.”

# Joint Base Airmen support Toys for Tots campaign

## 15th Wing Public Affairs Office

Leaders at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam demonstrated support for the Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots” campaign Dec. 3 by collecting toys for less fortunate children in the local community.

“Team Hickam’s participation in the Toys for Tots campaign reaffirms our strong commitment to serving the needs of our Hawaii *ohana*,” said Col. Dann Carlson, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam deputy commander and 647th Air Base Group (ABG) commander.

The Toys for Tots campaign is a charitable tradition supported and executed by service members since 1947. Toys for Tots Hawaii has established a close working



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

(From left) Col. Dann Carlson, 647th Air Base Group commander; Capt. Jeffery James, commnder of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii; and Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, donate toys Dec. 3 as a show of support for the annual Toys for Tots campaign.

relationship with local social welfare agencies, church groups and other local community agencies to

distribute the toys.

The campaign, which began Nov. 18, requests that patrons

drop off new, unwrapped toys at collection sites located around joint base.

“Donation boxes can be found at a number of public facilities, including the base exchange, 24-hour shoppette, Airmen Family Readiness Center, the Kai Makani Community Center and squadrons,” said 1st Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey, Team Hickam Toys for Tots project officer.

After collection, Team Hickam toys are picked up and sorted at a warehouse managed by the Joint Base Office of Emergency Management.

“Donations halfway through the campaign have been large enough to fill six large collection boxes,” said Staff Sgt. Rob Cook, 647th ABG Toys for Tots project officer. “I am amazed at the generous

gifts given by Airmen as we’ve collected enough toys to fill a moving van.”

The new toys are then transported to the Marines Corps Reserves at Marine Corps Base Hawaii before they are distributed to children in need by the local Toys for Tots coordinators.

“It is important to remember that all monetary and toy donations that come from the islands stay on the islands,” said U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Ed Hans, Oahu Toys for Tots action officer for the Marines Corps Reserve.

Hans said that more than 45,000 toys were collected from 200 donation locations on Oahu last year. The campaign runs through Dec. 14. A complete list of donation sites can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/VxU0Pd>.



# Earth Tip: Buy a local live tree

If holiday plans include bringing a tree indoors to decorate, a locally grown tree avoids the issue of importing bugs and has a far smaller carbon footprint than one shipped from the mainland.

Another option is to cut your own. A website for “pick your own” information is: <http://bit.ly/QLuPGT>. If still left with its root, a potted tree will of course last longer than one that’s been cut, and the risk of fire is greatly reduced. What are usually called Norfolk pines are probably Cook pines.

While the two species start out looking about the same, as they mature Norfolk pines look more like pyramids while Cooks take on a rocket or carrot shape. Either makes a suitable inside tree decorated with bows or wispy ornaments and light-weight lights.

No matter which you purchase, it’s interesting to note

that Norfolk pines are not named after that Navy homeport on the eastern side of the continental United States.

The botanist on Captain Cook’s second voyage in 1774 named the island on which the trees were found in honor of the Duchess of Norfolk. It’s a 5-mile long island east of Brisbane, Australia and north, northwest of New Zealand.

The Cook pine is considered a native to New Caledonia, a much larger and more northerly island half way between Brisbane, Australia and Fiji. Both trees make fine inside locally grown trees for the holidays and should enjoy being planted outside after the holidays pass.

*Submitted by  
Rebecca Hommon  
Navy Region Hawaii  
Environmental Counsel*

# NMCRS offers scholarships, interest-free loans

Applications for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) educational scholarships and interest-free loans for the 2013-2014 academic year are now available and can be downloaded at [www.nmcrs.org/education](http://www.nmcrs.org/education).

Students eligible to apply include spouses or children (under the age of 23) of Sailors and Marines who:

- Are on active duty.
- Are retired.
- Died on active duty or in a retired status.

Consideration for selection is based

on scholastic ability and financial need. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or full-time (minimum 12 credit hours) college students working toward their first undergraduate degree.

Applications must be received at NMCRS by May 1, 2013 unless the due date on the application states otherwise.

“During these tough economic times, our educational assistance continues to help Navy and Marine Corps families reach their goal of attending college,” said Beverly Langdon, NMCRS educa-

tion program manager.

The NMCRS Education Program has provided scholarships and interest-free loans totaling more than \$60 million to more than 50,000 students over the last 30 years. It is based on the society’s mission “to provide financial, educational and other assistance.” The program is supported entirely by donations and bequests to NMCRS.

*(For more information on the NMCRS Education Program, visit [www.nmcrs.org/education](http://www.nmcrs.org/education) or email [education@nmcrs.org](mailto:education@nmcrs.org).)*

# HPU Basketball Classic to be played at JBPHH

All of the games of the upcoming Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) Basketball Classic will be played at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam’s Bloch Arena.

Admission to the games is free. The games are:

- Dec. 16, 2 p.m., HPU versus Menlo College.
- Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Menlo College

versus Upper Iowa.

- Dec. 19, 2 p.m., HPU versus Upper Iowa.

For more information, visit the website [www.goseawarriors.com](http://www.goseawarriors.com).

## Blood drive schedule announced

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. 7, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, building 2.

Dec. 17 and 19, 7 a.m. to noon., 3rd Radio Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

For more information, call 433-6699 or 433-6148 or email [michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil](mailto:michelle.lele@amedd.army.mil).

## Parking lot to be repaved

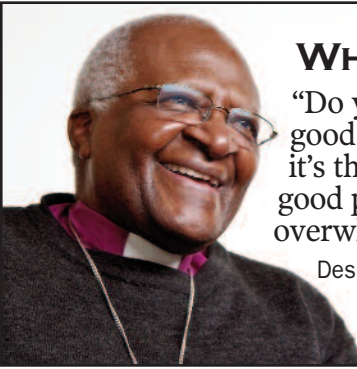
From 7 a.m. Dec. 10 through 4 p.m. April 5, building 1557, Jagger’s Café parking lot, will be repaved and restriped.

Motorists and pedestrians are advised to heed caution and warning signs and avoid parking in the work area throughout the duration of construction.

Vehicles obstructing the worksite will be towed at the owner’s expense.

Traffic from the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center through the parking lot will be closed throughout the duration of the project.

**WHO SAID IT?**  
“The best road to progress is freedom’s road.”



*Last Week’s*

**WHO SAID IT?**

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

Desmond Tutu

## This Week’s Trivia

When was the 15th Pursuit Group (Fighter), forerunner to the 15th Airlift Wing, activated and where?

**Last Issue’s Question:**

What are the origins of oak leaves as U.S. Navy insignia

**Answer:** Oak leaves have been used as insignia by various corps and ranks of the U.S. Navy since the earliest days. This decorative device was probably adopted originally as a symbol of the oaken ships of the United States. In the days of wooden ships, the government preserved its oak for shipbuilding by placing oak timbers under water for decades.