

## MOH HONOREES PAY RESPECTS



Congressional Medal of Honor recipients drop rose petals at the USS Arizona Memorial to pay tribute to the sacrifice of the Sailors who lost their lives during the Dec. 7 attacks on Pearl Harbor. Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and Sailors dedicate a wreath to the USS Arizona Memorial during a wreath laying ceremony.

## Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam holds annual *makahiki* festival

Story and photo by  
MC3 Sean Furey  
Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West Det.  
Hawaii



Participants of the annual *makahiki* festival host *makahiki* games at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The *makahiki* festival has been held on the shores of Hickam Harbor Beach and Ford Island each year for 10 years.

Service members, families and friends attended the annual *Kapuaikaula Makahiki* Festival on Oct. 6 at Hickam Harbor Beach at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The *makahiki* festival, also known as "Hawaiian Thanksgiving," gives those in attendance the opportunity to better understand Hawaiian history and culture. Shad Kane, the master of ceremonies for the festival, gave a talk on the history of the festival. "The *makahiki* is an ancient Hawaiian celebration of the four months of the *Lono* season,

to honor *Lono* who is seen as the deified guardian of agriculture," Kane said. "The *makahiki* anciently is a time for celebrating a bountiful harvest, bringing together the fisherman, the farmers and every body

with the chiefs." The event began with paddlers in canoes carrying a symbolic representation of *Lono*, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace arriving on the shores of Hickam Harbor Beach.

"I thought it was wonderful, I've never been to this before. I was really excited about coming. I am always interested in learning more about the Hawaiian culture," said Carol Ponds, wife of Rear Adm. Ponds. "I always love

to hear about the culture of Hawaii. The most interesting part was learning about the origins of this festival. I hope that I can attend more of these events." The arrival was followed by a procession from the

landing site to the *makahiki* location. Attendees were also give the chance to participate in traditional games at the event, such as *o'o ihe*, or spear throwing, and *ulu maika*, or stone rolling. (See more photos on A-5)

## Navy birthday celebrated at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth  
Contributing Writer

Empire of Japan in the Pacific."

After Tiff's invocation, a short video highlighting the history, innovation and accomplishments of the Navy was shown, with particular emphasis given to the War of 1812.

The importance of the War of 1812 in making the Navy what it is today was also emphasized by the ceremony's keynote speaker, Jim Neuman, Navy Region Hawaii historian. Faced with aggressive provocations from the British navy, the U.S. was forced to take action.

"On June 18, 1812 the newly formed United States, not even 25 years old and wholly unprepared financially or militarily, declared war on Great Britain, the greatest naval power on earth," Neuman said. The odds for the U.S. did not seem good. "The American Navy had



Jim Neuman, Navy Region Hawaii historian, was the keynote speaker at a ceremony Oct. 10 at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel, marking the Navy's 237th birthday.

maybe 20 ships in our arsenal to the 600 ships of the royal navy," explained Neuman. "But we had six

were strong, professional and determined Sailors, and they were not afraid to fight a superior foe."

The war ended in 1815 with no obvious victor. But the United States had put up a good fight, and the conflict had a major effect on shaping the U.S. Navy.

"This was truly when the United States Navy came of age," said Neuman. "It was here that the Navy truly began to build the legacy of achievement, courage, honor and commitment that we celebrate today." Neuman also stressed how much history there is here in the Pacific.

"As Sailors in Hawaii, you have history all around you," he said. The pivotal Battle of Midway in 1942 was won first in the dry docks over at the shipyard, when ship fitters, and carpenters and electricians worked around the clock to get

the damaged USS Yorktown fit for battle in record time so that her aircrews could participate at Midway.

Neuman said, "History is the USS Missouri, right out there on Battleship Row.... History is the USS Arizona Memorial, a terrible moment in our history, represented in the design of the memorial as it slopes down over the wreckage of that great ship, and the crew who are still buried in her. But then the memorial slopes up above the shrine room and the sculpture of the tree of life symbolizing hope for the future, if we have learned the lesson of the need for eternal vigilance."

The ceremony ended with a video presentation by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Michael D. Stevens, who sent a birthday message. (See related stories on page A-3).

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 <p>Eagle Scout is renovating USS Utah Memorial this month See page A-2</p>	 <p>Fire Prevention Week focuses on having 'two ways out' See page A-4</p>	 <p>Thousands 'make strides' for breast cancer awareness See page B-6</p>

## Eagle Scout is renovating USS Utah Memorial to honor veterans

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

Contributing Writer

The USS Utah Memorial at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is receiving a facelift from Eagle Scout Zane Grzeszczak, a 15-year-old sophomore at Pearl City High School.

He and his Boy Scout troop are working to improve and renovate the Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

"It was brought to my attention by my scout master that there was a possible project at the USS Utah," Grzeszczak said. "I always wanted to do something to help and honor veterans, and this was the perfect



Photo courtesy of Dee Dee Grzeszczak

(Above and Left) Zane Grzeszczak and members of Troop 180 pull weeds and oversee a new coat of paint being applied at the USS Utah Memorial.

opportunity."

The USS Utah was sunk during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Of the ship's crew, an estimated six officers and 52 enlisted men were killed. The

memorial was officially authorized by the 91st Congress in October 1970, and dedicated on Memorial Day 1972.

Grzeszczak and his fellow Scouts from Troop 180,



along with help from local construction and paint companies, are installing a new concrete handicap accessible ramp and hand rail system at the memorial, as well as adding a new coat of paint to

the deck. The area around the memorial is being landscaped, with old plants being removed and replaced with new plants and mulch.

It's taken Grzeszczak nearly a year of planning

and receiving approval for this project. Work began the first week of October and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.

"Things are going really well so far," Grzeszczak said.

His mother, Dee Dee Grzeszczak, is very pleased by his project.

"I'm really proud of him," she said. "The work they are doing will be around for a long time."

"This is way overdue. I'm so proud of this young man and his desire to improve the memorial that honors the once-forgotten ship USS Utah, and members of the crew that still remain inside the ship," said Jim Taylor, a longtime volunteer who has supported the memorial.

## Hispanic heritage, workplace diversity celebrated at joint base

Story and photo by  
AG3 Vaughan Dill

Senior Chief Aerographer's Mates Manuel A. Santos and Enrique Acosta discussed the importance of Hispanic heritage and diversity in the workplace with Sailors and Airmen of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center, during a celebration Sept. 27 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The meteorology and oceanography community in the region has three commands on Oahu and in what may be the first time in the history of the Navy, in one location, all three senior enlisted leaders of the community are all of Hispanic descent.

"That says a lot for diversity in the Navy. It never used to be that way, and to be able to see that come to pass is pretty amazing," Acosta said.

Acosta is the senior enlisted advisor at the Joint Typhoon Warning Center, which is the U.S.



Senior Chief Aerographer's Mate Manuel A. Santos discusses the importance of Hispanic heritage and diversity in the workplace with Sailors and Airmen of the Joint Typhoon Warning Center during a celebration Sept. 27.

Department of Defense agency responsible for issuing tropical cyclone warnings for the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Santos is the senior enlisted advisor at the Fleet Weather Center Aviation Detachment based at Pearl Harbor-Hickam, which provides joint aviation services in Hawaii alongside the Air Force's 17th Operational Weather Squadron.

"It is great because as a nation we have grown a lot. It is about your knowledge and your qualifications, not about race. It is good to be a Sailor taking care of Sailors," said Santos.

Chief Aerographer's Mate Edward A. Vargas is the senior enlisted advisor at the Naval Oceanography Anti-submarine Warfare Detachment at Kaneohe Bay, which supports anti-

submarine warfare operations in the Pacific Fleet area of operations.

The celebration highlighted Hispanic leaders who spoke briefly about their impacts in the Navy.

"It is always a privilege when we get to recognize the pioneers that dealt with the perception and the adversity of a few. It is a way to say thanks to those few that made my path to success easier. It is also an opportunity to share my culture with other Sailors," Santos said.

With a national theme of "Diversity United, Building America's Future Today," Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the histories, cultures and contributions of Hispanic Americans who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

This observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and later expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period start-

ing Sept. 15 and ending Oct. 15.

Sept. 15 marks the starting point for the observance because it is the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile celebrate their Independence Days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively.

Hispanics comprise 16.3 percent of the total United States population, or 50.5

million people, forming the county's largest racial or ethnic minority. It is estimated that by 2050, a quarter of the nation's workforce will be Hispanic, according to 2010 data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Navy's workforce has more than 58,000 Hispanic active duty and reserve Sailors and officers. Nearly 15,000 Hispanic civilians serve in the Navy's total force, including four Hispanic flag officers and 172 Hispanic master chiefs.

Commentary

### How the Combined Federal Campaign helps

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these."

Every year, the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) provides an occasion to follow through on this advice through charitable support for those who are young, aged, weak or striving.

Navy Region Hawaii recognizes the importance of taking care of those in need and has a proud tradition of generous giving to a broad range of organizations.

The local, national and international organizations represented in the CFC offer each of us a way to take care of others in our community, locally, regionally, nationally and globally.

The non-profits represented in the CFC provide services and assistance to people in nearly every walk of life, and it is only



Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

through your charitable donations that these organizations can sustain their efforts.

Through a simple payroll deduction, online donation, or cash contribution each of us has the opportunity to help someone in need and to offer them hope through the knowledge that they are not alone.

Every day the personnel assigned to Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific make a difference at home and around the world.

Let's continue this tradition by generously supporting the 2012 Combined Federal Campaign! See your N-Code representative for more details on donating during the 2012 campaign.

## 15th Wing leaders donate to Combined Federal Campaign

1st Lt. Kathleen Eisenbrey

15th Medical Group

Leaders of the 15th Wing donated to the six-week Combined Federal Campaign which began Oct. 1 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and extends through Nov. 16.

The campaign is celebrating 51 years of giving. Combined Federal Campaign and individual service relief campaigns are the only fundraising drives authorized for federal and military workplaces.

"The Combined Federal Campaign provides a unique opportunity for Airmen to make a lasting impression," said Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander. "Charitable donations to the campaign will benefit charities in the local community and around the world, enabling Team Hickam to empower the lives of others."

The theme of this year's campaign is "One Team: Making a Difference." Contributions can be made to local and national charities supporting a wide range of services to improve the quality of



life for men, women, children and animals.

A small donation can make a profound impact on the lives of others. Examples of charitable donations include \$12 to fund more than 300 international polio vaccinations or two-and-a-half months of diabetic monitoring supplies or 25 residential-delivered lunches to elderly and homebound senior citizens.

"By giving generously today, we are saying 'thank you' to the organizations that helped us in the past and we continue the legacy of giving and assisting those in need in the future," said Maj. Miev Carhart, CFC action officer for the 15th Wing. "All of us have been touched by the Combined Federal Campaign."

Last year, the Hawaii-Pacific area — including Hawaii, Guam, Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands — collected just more than \$6.5 million in charitable donations. This year's regional goal is to collect \$7 million.

"Being a part of CFC is only one click away," Roscoe said. "(It is) especially exciting this year that you can contribute online via the CFC website."

Established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, the CFC is the world's leading annual workplace charity campaign. The philanthropy-based campaign rallies support from more than four million federal employees and military personnel to assist more than 2,700 local, national and international charities, 149 of which are located in the Pacific community.

Contributors may complete a paperless contribution via credit card, debit card or e-check online. Donations can also be made via payroll allotment(s), cash or check on a paper pledge card. A detailed list of CFC charities can be accessed at <http://www.cfc-hawaii.org/>.

# Navy celebrates 237th birthday, legacy born in 1775

James Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii Historian

Oct. 13 marks the 237th birthday of the United States Navy. The date comes at a time when the nation is commemorating a succession of important events. 2011 marked the beginning of the sesquicentennial of America's Civil War.

The Navy's role in that defining struggle included the seizure of the Mississippi River and the strangling blockade of southern ports which essentially cut Confederacy in half. Also in 2011, the Navy commemorated the Centennial of Naval Aviation and a commitment to innovation and new technologies.

Earlier this year the nation paused to mark the 70th anniversary of the pivotal Battle of Midway when the United States turned the tide of the naval war against Japan and began its ascent

as the greatest power on earth.

Finally, the often forgotten War of 1812, which actually lasted until 1815, is largely considered the struggle in which the Navy came of age. Over the next several years it will be remembered in a series of bicentennial events across the country.

The genesis of America's Navy took place on Oct. 13, 1775 during the Revolutionary War. The Continental Congress authorized the purchase of several merchant ships and converted them into a small naval force with the intent to intercept transports carrying supplies to the British army in Quebec.

A few months later Congress authorized the construction of a few frigates in an attempt to challenge the Royal Navy's blockade of colonial ports and further disrupt British commerce. Although a valiant attempt, its effect was minimal and following the war the only



Image courtesy of www.ourflagwastillthere.org

The American frigate Constitution defeats the HMS Guerriere during the War of 1812.

surviving frigate was sold in 1785.

In the earliest years of the young nation, many Americans viewed a standing navy as an expensive and largely unnecessary burden, but world events soon proved this position to be untenable.

The United States' lifeline of seaborne commerce was threatened first by the seizure of American merchant ships by pirates along the North African coast then later by the navies of England and France, locked in a death struggle for European dominion.

The United States responded with diplomatic efforts and economic embargoes but to little or no avail. It soon became clear that the only way to secure the peace

was with a strong and effective naval presence. American shipbuilders constructed six frigates for the new United States Navy that proved to be superior in design and technology to any ship afloat.

Eventually, the actions of the British Royal Navy led the American people to demand respect on the open seas. The British seized with impunity American ships bound for French ports and made matters worse by impressing American Sailors into the royal navy.

This intolerable demonstration affronted American honor. Despite a lack of financial and military resources, the United States declared war on Great Britain, then the greatest naval power on earth, on

June 18, 1812.

The United States Navy truly came of age during the War of 1812 as a result of several stunning victories in ship-on-ship battles. The exceptional design of American frigates influenced British shipbuilders to construct their ships according to the American model by the end of the war.

Though it is largely accepted that the outcome of the war resulted in a draw, the United States had discovered a newfound sense of patriotism and national identity and had earned the respect of Great Britain and other leading nations of the world.

The Navy's legacy, born in October of 1775, is one of pride of service, professionalism, honor, courage and

Obviously the naval battles of the War of 1812 were fought a long way away in the Atlantic and the Great Lakes, but the war did have an impact in the Pacific and even touched the Hawaiian Islands.

From March of 1813 until March of 1814 the American frigate Essex sailed in South Pacific waters upsetting British commerce by capturing numerous whaling ships. One of those captured whalers was the Sir Andrew Hammond which sailed under the American flag into Honolulu Harbor in May of 1814 under the command of Lt. John Gamble, USMC. The Sir Andrew Hammond thus became the first U.S. warship to anchor in Hawaii. Unfortunately the ship was recaptured a few weeks later as it left Honolulu by the British frigate HMS Cherub.

commitment. That legacy was established and honed during those formative years that culminated in the War of 1812.

In the 200 years since the War of 1812 the U.S. Navy has continued to defend freedom of the seas and access to sea lanes and has persistently adopted new technologies in warfighting, energy and training to protect our nation.

## Haney to speak at today's bell-ringing ceremony

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific will host a bell-ringing ceremony in honor of the 237th Navy Birthday at 8:30 a.m. today at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center lanai.

Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, will be keynote speaker.

The ceremony is open to the public. It will also include music by the Pacific Fleet Band, the National Anthem, an invocation, reading of the Secretary of the Navy's birthday message and benediction.

Military attire for the event is summer white or service equivalent for E-7 and above. Attire is Navy service uniform or service equivalent for E-6 and below. Civilian attire is business aloha.

In addition, all commands within Navy Region Hawaii should ring their bells at 9 a.m. today as they are able.

The age-old practice of sounding the bell during watches, on the hour and half-hour, symbolically signals that someone stands the watch.

For more information on the ceremony, call Ensign Michelle Downs at 473-2920 or email michelle.l.downs@navy.mil.

For more information about the Navy's history, see the Naval History and Heritage Command website at www.history.navy.mil.

## MCPON sends Navy birthday message

Special from Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (AW/NAC) Mike D. Stevens



MCPON (AW/NAC) Mike D. Stevens

WASHINGTON (NNS) – Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (AW/NAC) Mike D. Stevens sent his 237th Navy birthday message to the fleet Oct. 9.

"Shipmates and Navy families,

"As we honor the 237th birthday of the United States Navy, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all Sailors, civilians and family members for your service and dedication

to our great Navy.

"One of the primary reasons I believe our Navy is so great is because of the way we treat each other with decency and respect and how

we conduct ourselves professionally. This is something that we should all actively strive to do every day. It adds value, influences those around us in a positive way, and is truly important to our primary mission of warfighting.

"I personally look to our history as a roadmap and a guide to help us stay the course and aid us in navigating through the challenges we face today. It is these challenges that create the opportunities that allow us to grow as Sailors, citizens and leaders.

"The Navy's birthday gives

us a chance to think about the things that we are doing today and how we are creating history from which future generations can draw courage. In everything that we do, we need to provide future generations something to be proud of and celebrate.

This is our time and we are part of a new history. We must seize the day, because if we don't, who will?

To all of our Sailors and Navy families, I would like to wish you a very happy birthday as we celebrate 237 years of excellence and service to our great Navy."

## Diverse Views

**"What is your favorite new TV show? What do you like about it?"**

**Staff Sgt. Josh Rose**  
647th Security Forces Squadron

"My favorite TV show is Oklahoma Sooners football. The reason is we always win and it's hard to have seven national championships."

**Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matt Diendorf**  
Pacific Missile Range Facility

"Revolution." It reminds me of 'The Hunger Games,' which I'm reading now. The lead characters are similar."

**Airman 1st Class Jervis Jacobs**  
15th Maintenance Squadron

"My favorite show is 'Breaking Bad.' It tells a good story of how a good guy goes bad, and that drugs are never a way out."

**Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Andre Cook**  
USS Louisville (SSN 724)

"I don't watch much TV, but I watch 'Breaking Bad' on Netflix all the time. It's an interesting show."

**Master Sgt. Brandi Thomas**  
647th Force Support Squadron

"My favorite show is 'Ridiculousness' because they highlight home videos of people performing crazy and reckless behavior. Every show is absolutely hilarious!"

**Jimmy**  
Military working dog  
647th Security Forces Squadron

(As translated by his handler Staff Sgt. Josh Rose) "My favorite show is 'When Animals Attack' because people get to see me in action."

(Provided by David Underwood Jr. and Brandon Bosworth)

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

## Machine gets clean at Hickam

Ground crew members wash a P-40 aircraft fuselage at the former Hickam Field in 1940.

Photo courtesy of Hawaii.gov/Hawaiiaviation

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Navy Region Hawaii  
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Ho'okele is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Star Advertiser 500 Ala Moana Boulevard Suite 7-500 Honolulu Hawaii 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: editor@hookelenews.com World Wide Web address: https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/ or www.hookelenews.com.

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# Fire Prevention Week focuses on having 'two ways out'

Story and photo by  
Brandon Bosworth

Contributing Writer

The Federal Fire Department hosted a variety of fire prevention activities Oct. 5 at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) to coincide with the start of Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Prevention Week was established by the National Fire Protection Association to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This year's theme, "Have Two Ways Out!" focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice and having more than one escape route in case the primary one is blocked.

"Our mission is to educate the public about fire prevention," said Battalion Chief David Jimenez, Federal Fire Department. "We learn how fires start and share that knowledge with the public."

According to Jimenez, the number one cause of household fires is unattended cooking. "If you step away from the stove, turn it off," he cautioned.



Fire Inspector Ken Kunihiro instructs children on how to "stop, drop and roll."

Good housekeeping is also important in preventing fires. The more combustibles in a home, the more fuel for a fire.

The Federal Fire Department has been hosting fire prevention activities at the Pearl Harbor

NEX for 10 years. This year many interactive educational tools were featured.

Fire Inspector Jackie Rapozo built a special tunnel for kids to crawl through to re-create escaping from a fire.

"I like stuff for kids

that's realistic and hands-on," she said. "I'm not good with just lecturing."

Another training tool was a special fire extinguisher that allowed users to simulate putting out a fire. The extinguisher was the exact same

## Tips for planning the family's escape

The Federal Fire Department recommends the following tips for planning your family's escape:

- Make a map of your home. Mark a door and window that could be used to get out of every room.
- Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This place is where everyone will meet once they have escaped. Ensure that the location is drawn out on your escape plan.
- Write the emergency telephone number "911" on your escape plan.
- Practice your escape plan with everyone in the household by having someone activate the smoke alarm.
- Keep your escape plan on the refrigerator and remind family members about practicing the plan twice a year or whenever anyone in your home celebrates a birthday.

size and weight as a real extinguisher. It projected a beam that could be pointed at a virtual fire to "extinguish" it.

While similar in function to a video game, the \$12,000 high-tech extinguisher is actually a useful way to allow people to feel what it is like to actually use a fire extinguisher.

"It's a good tool," said Staff Sgt. Michael Hyde, 647 Civil Engineering Squadron. "For many people, it's their first time using a fire extinguisher."

"We can use this extinguisher anywhere," added Battalion Chief Albert Balderama. "It can be used indoors, and is very green and environmentally friendly."

Balderama stressed that it isn't enough to just have fire extinguishers at your home or workplace. "You need to check them once a month to make sure they are still charged," he said.

For more information about fire prevention and safety, visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).

## PMRF Sailor to receive life-saving award

Pacific Missile Range  
Facility Public Affairs

Ensign Billy Newell, installation security officer for the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), is set to receive a lifesaving award for saving a fellow military member when the Hawaii State Chapter of the American Red Cross honors their Heroes of the Year.

The awards will be presented Oct. 13 during a Red Cross Heroes Breakfast at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort and Spa.

During a PMRF dining out event March 16, a military member began to choke on a piece of steak. Newell instructed bystanders to call 911 and began administering the Heimlich maneuver to clear the obstruction.

When that failed, the victim began to lose consciousness, Newell then laid the victim on the floor and began CPR. After four sets of CPR, Newell attempted abdominal thrusts and cleared the obstruction.

The victim gasped and regained consciousness and was placed in the recovery position until Kauai Fire Department



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of PMRF

Ensign Billy Newell demonstrates proper first aid techniques on a simulated gunshot victim during a training evolution.

and Emergency Medical Services arrived to assist. The victim made a full recovery and was back to work the next week.

For more information on the Red Cross, visit the website [www.hawaiiiredross.org](http://www.hawaiiiredross.org) or call 739-8109.

## Airmen and families participate in monthly Warrior Run at JBPHH



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Lauren Main

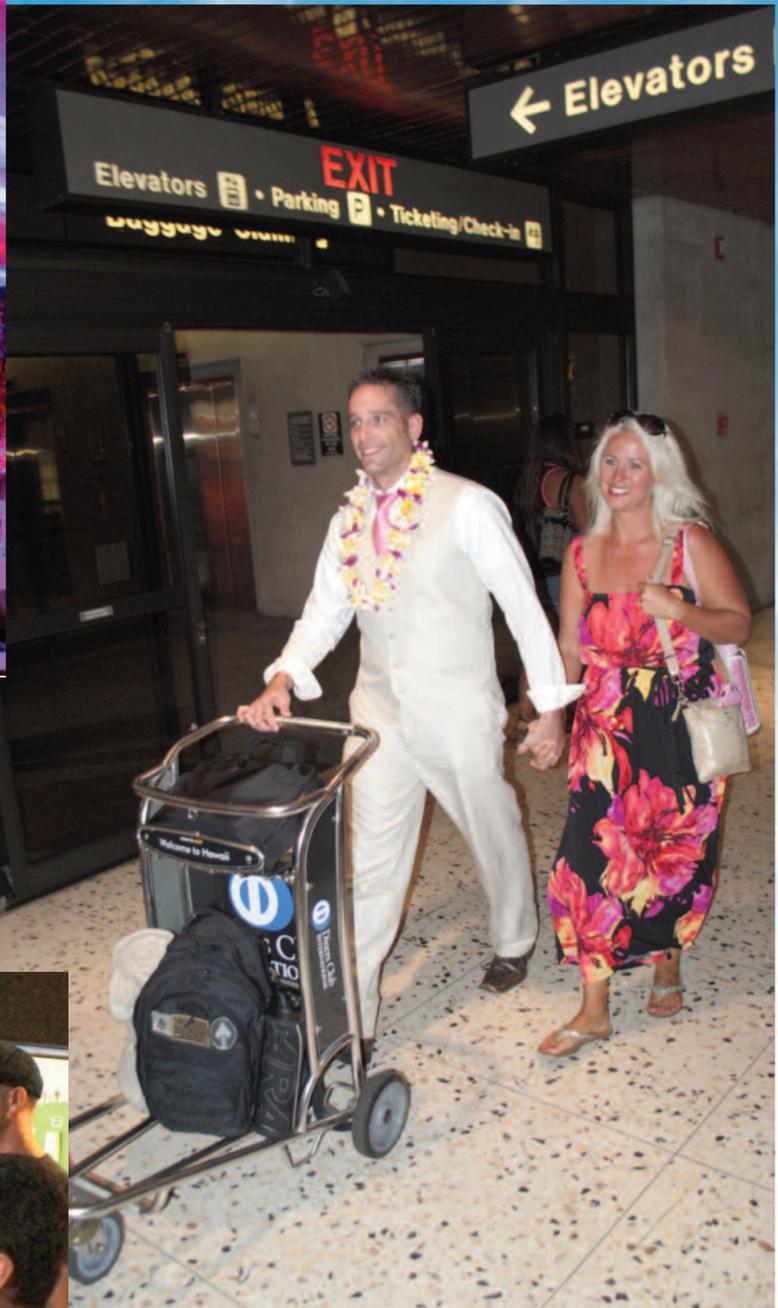
An Airman speeds down the course for the monthly Fun Run while wearing a gas mask at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Oct. 5. The concept for the run was recently revamped to include and encourage family members to participate. Accordingly, children ran alongside of their parents and babies sped along in strollers through the approximately two mile course.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Medal of Honor recipients attend a dinner in their honor held on Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Photo courtesy of Battleship Missouri Memorial



Chief Electronics Technician (SS) Kevin Courtner of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY & IMF) heads to the baggage claim area with his wife after arriving at Honolulu International Airport Oct. 6. Shipyard military personnel turned out in force to give Courtner a hero's welcome for his service as an individual augmentee in Afghanistan.

U.S. Navy photo by FCC (SW) Jonathan E. Scott



(Left) USS Russell (DDG 59) crew members volunteer with the Feed the Homeless Project at the Lighthouse Outreach center in Waipahu. Russell crew members were able to provide food and serve more than 150 meals to people in need.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Joseph Quinn

(Below and right) Participants at the annual *makahiki* festival begin the event with the arrival at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The *makahiki* festival has been held on the shores of Hickam Harbor Beach and Ford Island for 10 years.

U.S. Navy photos by MC3 Sean Furey



## New Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific commander takes helm

### Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR – Rear Adm. Kate Gregory, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific Commander was relieved by Rear Adm. Scott Weikert during a change of Command ceremony held Oct. 1 at the command headquarters. Rear Adm. Christopher Mossey, NAVFAC Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers was the keynote speaker and praised Gregory for her exceptional work, tireless



Rear Adm. Scott Weikert

dedication to duty, and leadership in times of fiscally challenging and difficult times.

“What Adm. Gregory has really excelled at over the past couple of years is helping us to answer 'how does NAVFAC continue to support the Navy and Marine Corps during a period of significant financial constraints?'” said Mossey.

“That's a big question, and that's a real challenge. This is where she has done the hardest and the most important work of all.”

“She's left an indelible mark on this command with her energy and her willingness to take on these tough challenges,” said Mossey.

Gregory reflected on her time as NAVFAC Pacific

commander and recognized the contributions and achievements of the entire team.

“When I think about what the 'Hawaii Ohana' means, it's really the professionalism that has been displayed here and throughout the Pacific,” said Gregory. “I appreciate having had the opportunity to serve with you. When I think about all the things that you've accomplished, they all come back to the way that you have managed the work and the way that you've worked together to put the mission first.”

Weikert assumes com-

mand of NAVFAC Pacific with years of Navy civil engineer experience and after serving the last several years as the deputy commander of NAVFAC and deputy chief of civil engineers. He has held several flag officer assignments to include command assignments with NMCB 27 in Brunswick, Maine and 7th Naval Construction Regiment in Newport, R.I.

In his new assignment, Weikert will also serve as the U.S. Pacific Fleet civil engineer, and will maintain his duties as the deputy chief of civil engineers, which he held at NAVFAC headquar-

ters in Washington, D.C. since October 2010.

“I consider it an absolute privilege to have this opportunity to serve with the NAVFAC Pacific team,” said Weikert. “It is my intent to continue with the NAVFAC Pacific initiatives that are in place and progressing, to continue the momentum and energy that has been established, and make this transition in leadership as seamless as possible to you and our supported commands.”

Gregory will report to her next assignment on Oct. 26 as the NAVFAC commander and chief of civil engineers in Washington, D.C.

## Are you ready for the zombie apocalypse and other emergencies?

### Dan DuBois

Emergency Management Officer Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Nothing has captured recent popular culture more than zombies. Most of us have read stories or seen movies and TV shows about zombies taking over, eating brains or just people in general, overwhelming cities and turning the living into the walking dead.

We know that zombies aren't real and that there isn't any danger of a 'zombie apocalypse.' But in their Preparedness 101: Zombie Pandemic graphic novel, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention uses a hypothetical zombie pandemic as a creative way to emphasize the importance of being prepared for any disaster.

There is no need to worry about such a 'zombie apocalypse,' but for real emergencies like tsunamis, earthquakes or a hurricane, here are some things that you should do.

#### Have a plan

First you need to sit down



with your family and come up with an emergency plan. This includes where you would go and who you would call if there is a flood, earthquake or other emergency.

Identify the types of emergencies that are possible in your area. Our major dangers in Hawaii are hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis and floods. If you are unsure, contact your command emergency management representative or go to [www.ready.navy.mil](http://www.ready.navy.mil), [www.beready.af.mil](http://www.beready.af.mil) or FEMA's [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for more information.

Pick a meeting place for your family to regroup in case Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) evacuates because of a hurricane or

other disaster. Pick one place right outside your home for sudden emergencies and one place outside of your neighborhood in case you are unable to return home right away.

Identify your emergency contacts. Make a list of local contacts such as the police and fire department. Also identify an out-of-state contact that you can call during an emergency to let the rest of your family know you are safe.

Plan your evacuation route. Plan where you would go and multiple routes you would take ahead of time. This is also helpful when natural disasters strike and you have to take shelter fast.

#### Make a kit

Make an emergency kit for your home and your car. This

includes things like water, food and other supplies to get you through the first couple of days until you are able to make your way to an evacuation shelter or utility lines are restored.

Below are a few items you should include in your kit. For a full list, visit [www.ready.navy.mil](http://www.ready.navy.mil), [www.beready.af.mil](http://www.beready.af.mil) or FEMA's [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for more information.

- Water (one gallon per person per day).
- Food (stock up on non-perishable items that you eat regularly).
- Cash (at least \$250).

Remember that if you lose

power, ATMs will not operate so credit/debit cards won't work.

• Gas - If a hurricane is coming, fill your gas tank. During hurricane season, keep at least half a tank.

• Medications (this includes prescription and non-prescription meds).

• Tools and supplies (utility knife, duct tape, battery-powered radio, etc.), sanitation and hygiene (household bleach, soap, towels, etc.), clothing and bedding (a change of clothes for each family member and blankets).

• Important documents (copies of your driver's license, passport and birth certificate,

to name a few).

• First aid supplies (you can use these supplies to treat basic cuts and lacerations that you might get during a tornado <http://1.usa.gov/d3CIOW> or <http://1.usa.gov/16akQ0> .

• Pet supplies, such as food, leash, collar and a hard-sided or collapsible kennel.

(For more information about the CDC's graphic novel and other information about preparing for natural disasters, visit [www.cdc.gov/phpr](http://www.cdc.gov/phpr) or [www.cdc.gov/phpr/zombies\\_novella.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/zombies_novella.htm).)