"Navigator"

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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Agriculture secretary promotes U.S. Navy biofuels

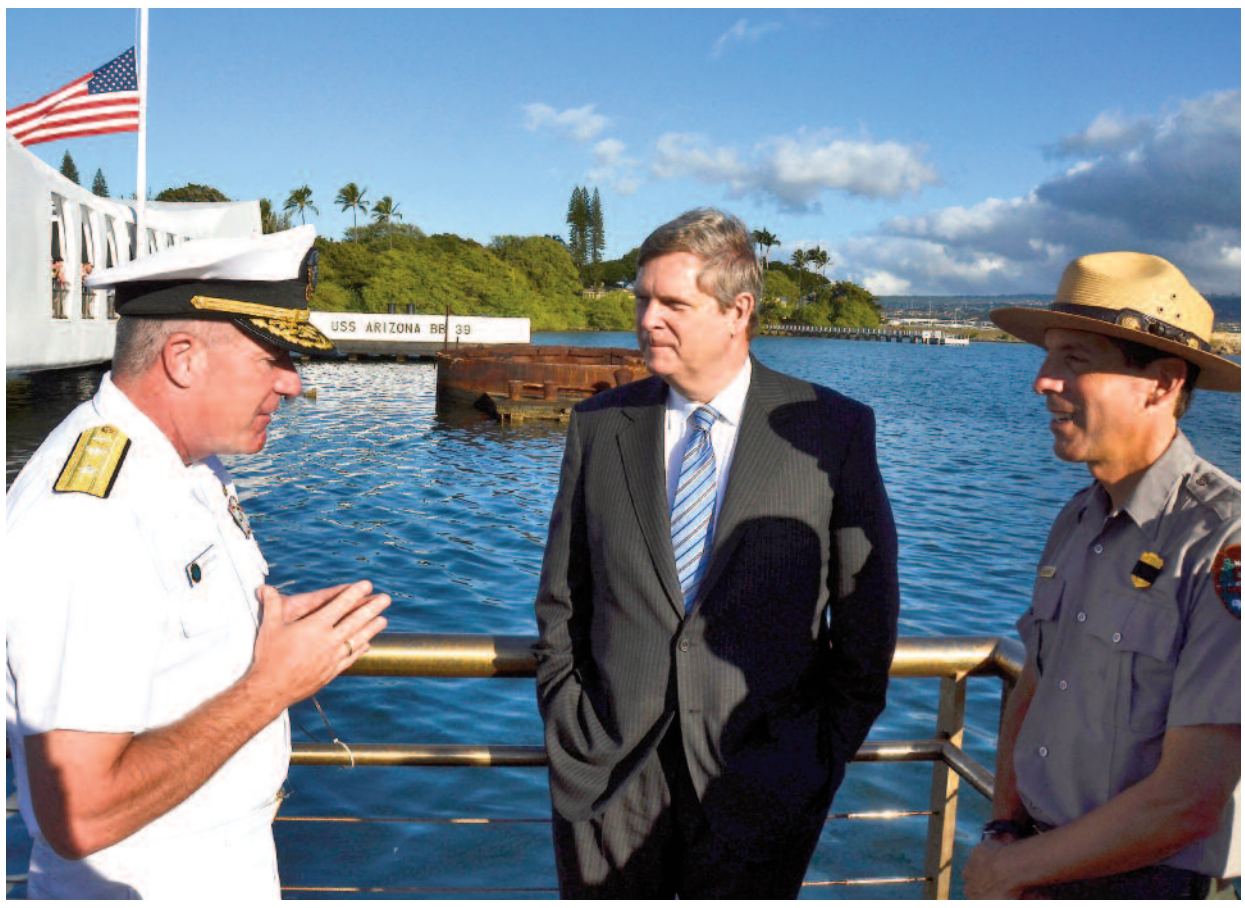
Story and photos by MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack highlighted the partnership between the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to promote biofuels and renewable energy during a visit to the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument's Pearl Harbor Visitor Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Jan. 10.

Pearl Harbor was the first Hawaii military marine fleet to use biodiesel fuel, replacing the 20-year-old U.S. Navy-operated USS Arizona Memorial tour boats with environmentally friendly new boats capable of running on 100 percent biodiesel.

"Advanced biofuels provide landowners, businesses and communities in Hawaii and throughout the country the opportunity to pursue new energy advancements that create jobs and build a stronger economy," Vilsack said. "By joining with partners like the U.S. Navy, USDA is supporting investments in innovative technologies to help our nation develop renewable energy to out-innovate and out-compete the rest of the world."



Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (center) visits the USS Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor along with Rear Adm. Glenn Robillard (left) of U.S. Pacific Fleet and National Park Service Superintendent Paul DePrey. Vilsack was in Hawaii to highlight renewable energy, such as the Navy's use of biodiesel to fuel the Arizona Memorial tour boats.

In April 2009, the former Pearl Harbor Naval Base replaced its USS Arizona Memorial tour boats with state-of-the-art boats that are currently powered by a blend of 20 percent biodiesel. The fleet's goal is to eventually transition to using 100 percent biodiesel. An emission comparison report between the old and new Arizona Memorial ferry boats showed that the oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions have been reduced 47 percent and particulate matter (PM) emissions have been reduced 83 percent.

The tour boats use approximately 28,000 gallons of bio-diesel fuel a year. Currently, the Navy operates six biodiesel ferry boats to and from the Arizona Memorial, all named after Medal of Honor recipients from the Pearl Harbor attack: John W. Finn, Samuel G. Fuqua, Cassin Young, Donald K. Ross, Jackson C. Pharris and Peter Tomich.

Before the press conference, Vilsack was able to visit the USS Arizona Memorial and tour Pearl Harbor aboard the biodiesel boat named after his great uncle, Medal of Honor recipient Cassin Young.

As commanding officer of the USS Vestal during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Young is credited with saving hundreds of lives even after he was blown overboard and had to swim back to his ship.

Rear Adm. Glenn Robillard, deputy chief of staff for logistics, fleet supply and ordnance, U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Paul DePrey, superintendent of the National Park Service, WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument joined Vilsack on the Pearl Harbor tour aboard Cassin Young.

"Secretary Vilsack was here today and able to show people the five shuttles that bring 1.5 million visitors out to the Arizona Memorial every year, DePrey said. "They are just one example of the efforts the Navy has taken to green its fuel supply."

Last summer President Barack Obama announced an investment in the private sector of up to $510 million during the next three years to produce advanced drop-in aviation and marine biofuels to power military and commercial transportation.

Recently the USDA and the U.S. Navy announced that the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) signed a contract to purchase 450,000 gallons of advanced drop-in biofuel, the single largest purchase of biofuel in government history. In addition, USDA recently announced five major research projects aimed at developing biofuels.

The advancement of renewable energy is particularly important to Hawaii, which currently relies on imported fossil fuels for more than 90 percent of its energy needs.

Through the use of Hawaii-grown algae, eucalyptus, sweet sorghum, banana grass, jatropha and energy cane, drop-in biofuels can serve as direct replacements or supplements to existing gasoline, diesel and jet fuels without any changes to existing fuel distribution networks or engines.

Safety tips for keiki provide defense against suspicious activity

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Honolulu Police Department (HPD) officials are reminding families to stay safe and follow good personal safety practices in their homes and neighborhoods following recent reports of suspicious activity in Navy housing areas.

On Jan. 9, a blue van approached a 10-year-old male resident and told the child that he was there to pick him up from school. The child said he didn't speak to strangers, and the blue van drove off. The child reported the incident to his parents and a police report was filed.

On Jan. 7, a 14-year-old female resident was followed by a late model blue van with a black tarp covering the roof. There was no abduction nor was there an attempted abduction. Also in late December, an unknown vehicle stopped a 7-year-old walking in the neighborhood and asked if the child needed a ride home. The girl ignored the driver, and there was nothing further to the incident.

HPD is investigating whether the incidents, which occurred in the Salt Lake area and nearby Navy housing, are related. JBPHH security personnel have increased their presence in the neighborhoods, and HPD has also increased patrols of the area. Forest City Residential Management has issued safety alert advisories to their military communities, and area schools have sent out notifications to their parents.

Capt. Jeff James, JBPHH commander, commended HPD, which has jurisdiction over family housing off base. "They have been very responsive and doing a terrific job," he said.

He added, "On the positive side, in each case, the children did what they were taught to do—ignore the stranger and report it to their parents. Good parenting goes a long way."

Safety and security of housing residents remain priorities for Navy Region Hawaii and JBPHH. Families are urged to follow the safety tips below to create a safer community:

- Children should play or walk in a group whenever possible.
- Don't talk to strangers or get close to a stranger's vehicle, even if the driver promises to give you something.
- Take the safest route to and from school.
- If you see someone at school who doesn't belong there, tell an adult right away.
- Join your Neighborhood Watch Program
- Report suspicious activity immediately by calling 911 and reporting to your housing community.

Know the rules for going to and from school more safely

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Every day millions of children take to the streets and highways to get to and from school. For many children, this experience is a new one and they may not understand or be able to use the safety rules.

Young children do not have the same frame of reference for safety as adults do. They may not "look before they leap," which is why it is so important for families to supervise young children and practice safety skills with their older children to make certain they really know and understand them.

In an analysis of attempted non-family abductions, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) found approximately 36 percent of attempted abductions happened when a child was going to or from school or a school-related activity.

The tips noted below will

See CHILD SAFETY, A-2

Pro golfer visits former ship

Story and photo by MC3 Dustin W. Sisco

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Det Hawaii

Professional Golfers Association of America (PGA) professional and former Navy Lt. Billy Hurley III visited the guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) on Jan. 9.

Hurley served aboard the Chung-Hoon from June 2007 to June 2009 as the force protection assistant and first lieutenant.

During the visit, Hurley had lunch in the wardroom before taking a tour of some of the old spaces where he used to work.

"I'm really excited to be back here to see the different things that are going on in the surface Navy," Hurley said.

Hurley discussed his desire to play golf while serving in the Navy.

"In college, I really wanted to pursue golf as a profession," Hurley said. "When I came out here to Chung-Hoon, I was sort of trying to get ready to go back to golf, but still trying to be a good division officer. I knew in the academy that I had that five-year obligation."

Chief Fire Controlman Wesley Pruitt, one of Hurley's old shipmates, talked about making jokes with Hurley while he was stationed aboard Chung-Hoon.

"I was a first class back then," Pruitt said. "He used to give me a hard time. The first thing he asked me was, 'Wow, they let you be a chief?'" Pruitt joked.

Hurley compared playing golf to military life.

"The military is a constant go-machine," Hurley said. "In golf, you get a short off-season as well, and you get right back at it."

After the tour of the ship, Hurley expressed how much he enjoyed being back at his former command.

"It's been a lot of fun today, to be back on board the Chung-Hoon and see a lot of officers and Sailors that I served with," Hurley said. "It was a real treat. I was happy we were able to make it work with the schedule with everybody."

PGA professional and former Navy Lt. Billy Hurley tours USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) with Cdr. Justin Orlich, commanding officer of the guided-missile destroyer, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Hurley was the former first lieutenant on the ship.

Hickam Field survivor's remains make final journey through Hickam **See page A-2**

JBPHH Security diligently watches for speedsters **See page A-3**

Cirque Dreams kicks off world tour at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam **See page B-1**

Pearl Harbor survivor, USS Argonne Sailor laid to rest **See page A-2**

Airmen are brought face to face with consequences of poor decisions **See page A-6**

561st NOS flag football title tops off year in sports **See page B-3**

Hickam Field survivor's remains make final journey through Hickam

Story and photo by SrA Lauren Main

15th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen line Atterbury Circle on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to salute and pay their respects as the remains of Wilfred "Fred" Toczko, a retired Army captain and Hickam Field survivor, passes by Jan. 11. Toczko began his military career as a young enlisted Soldier who displayed noteworthy heroism Dec. 7, 1941.

Approximately 850 Airmen lined the road, standing rigidly at attention. Their right hands slowly rose to their brow and the salutes rippled down the line as a white hearse approached.

The remains of Wilfred Toczko, a retired Army Air Corps captain, passed around Atterbury Circle on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Jan. 11. A survivor of the attacks on Dec. 7, 1941, Toczko always dreamed of coming back to the base he affectionately knew as Hickam Field.

Though he had intentions of returning for the 70th Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony on Dec. 7, 2011, he was unable to make it due to an unexpected illness; this was the last hurrah he had been hoping for.

Toczko's career began as a young enlisted Soldier at Hickam Field. He was a youthful 20-year old private first class on Dec. 7. At the time, Toczko was assigned to the 72nd Bombardment Squadron and was just about to begin a shift on guard duty at 7:30 a.m. that morning.

When the roar from the Japanese planes darting overhead interrupted the peaceful Sunday morning, Toczko drew his .45 caliber pistol and fired.

Moments later, he and a fellow Soldier set up a water-cooled machine gun to fire back at the Japanese aircraft. Unfortunately, the attacks had knocked out the bases water supply. Thinking quickly on their feet, Toczko and his counterpart broke in to the Coca-Cola machines in the barracks building and began pouring Coke into the liquid cooling compartments of the machine guns in order to make them operable.

Though Toczko displayed notable heroism Dec. 7, his fight was far from over.

When the United States entered World War II, Toczko shipped off for flight training and learned to fly the B-24 Liberator Bomber.

In 1944, only three years later, Toczko was shot down over Germany during a bombing run. He miraculously survived the crash, but was held as a Prisoner of War until the war ended in 1945.

Despite immeasurable tragedy and the hardships he'd faced up until that point in his life, Toczko still had more to give to his nation.

Growing up, Toczko was the son of Polish immigrants and had lived in Poland as a teenager prior to WWII. So, while already fluent in Polish, he also learned to speak German and Russian from immersion courses in Germany during the post-WWII occupation, and later Japanese when he attended the Army Language School.

In the years after the war ended and a new one began, the U.S. Government now looked to Toczko for his language skills. Toczko used his foreign language abilities to join the ranks of the Army Counterintelligence Corps, and targeted the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo. He was credited with planting an informant in the embassy who supplied the United States with intelligence that aided the country during the Cold War.

Toczko was also responsible for the arrest of a German spy who enlisted in the Army under a false name. The Army sergeant was attempting to sell classified documents to the Soviet Union when he was caught.

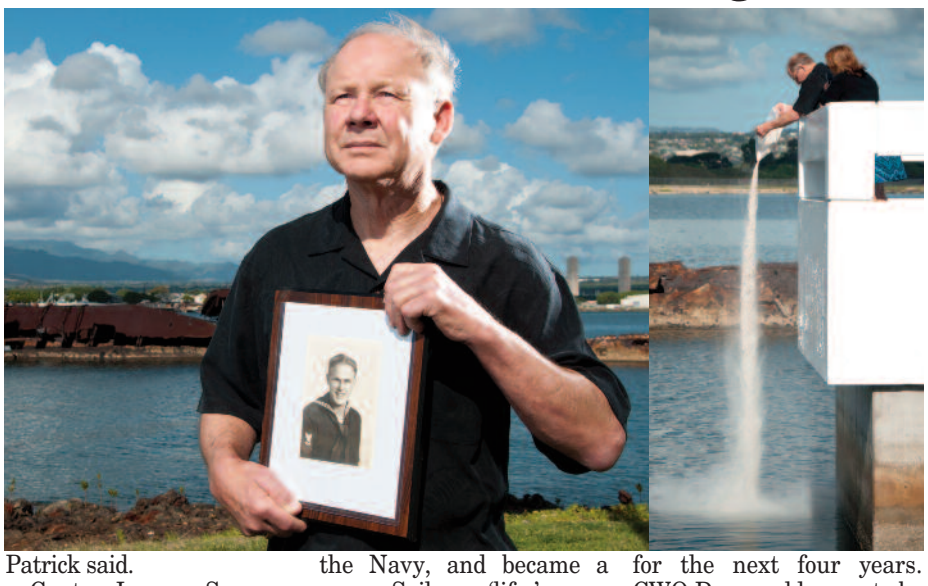
He finished his career at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., working on classified communications equipment and unmanned aerial surveillance system developments.

During his years in service, Toczko became one of the best and most accomplished Counterintelligence Corps special agents in history.

Pearl Harbor survivor, USS Argonne Sailor laid to rest

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Commander Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs



A memorial ceremony was held Jan. 11 for Pearl Harbor survivor Chief Warrant Officer Irvin John Day at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

The ceremony included a short religious service, the scattering of ashes, and a three-volley rifle salute provided by the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Navy Detachment Honor Guard. A U.S. Navy bugler from U.S. Pacific Fleet Band was also on hand to sound Taps, and a Sailor presented an American flag to Day's son, Patrick.

"The ceremony was very good; I liked it very much," Patrick said.

Capt. Larry Scruggs, JBPHH chief staff officer, spoke on behalf of the Navy's officer community.

"As a young man, John, seeking adventure, joined the Navy, and became a career Sailor, a 'lifer' as we call them, " Scruggs said. "Through fate, he was thrust into the most infamous day of our nation's history. He would be tested that day and for the next four years. CWO Day would go on to be an inspiration to hundreds of Sailors. He would rise to the most respected of ranks, that of a 'mustang officer.'

"The chief warrant officer was respected for his loyalty, deck plate leadership, technical savvy and unmatched devotion, a Sailor's Sailor. Never standing down from danger, nor shirking his watch, he was always vigilant and casting a wary eye out to help the young and inexperienced Sailors," Scruggs continued.

Day served aboard the USS Argonne, an auxiliary training ship, during the attack on Dec. 7, 1941. The ship was undergoing repairs at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard when Japanese bomber planes flew across the harbor toward the battleships.

Day remembered his crew feeling the sense of helplessness because the ship did not have any anti-aircraft guns, and all they could do was watch as the planes flew close and low over the front of the ship.

In February 1944, Day was appointed as a chief warrant officer. Day spent a lot of the war aboard USS Pawnee, a fleet ocean tug, in the South Pacific, which participated in numerous Pacific Island battles.

Day also served during the Korean War and retired from the Navy on Aug. 1, 1956. He served 20 years in the U.S. Navy with his last command being at Mare Island in Vallejo, Calif. There he continued to reside until his death in 2005.

During the ceremony, Day's son, Patrick, remembered his father fondly and told how the two enjoyed playing baseball together.

"He was always there for me," Patrick said.

Child safety tips for parents help ensure safer journey

Continued from A-1

help prepare for a safer journey:

Tips for parents and guardians

1. Instruct your children to always take a friend, always stay in well-lit areas, never take shortcuts, and never go into isolated areas. Teach them to stay aware of their surroundings and observe all traffic rules in place to more safely share the roads and sidewalks with others.

2. Walk the route to and from school with your children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they're being followed or need help. Make the walk to and from school a "teachable moment" and a chance to put their skills to the test. Make a map with your children showing acceptable routes to and from school. If your children wait for a bus, wait with them or make arrangements for supervision at the bus stop.

3. If anyone bothers your children or makes them feel scared, uncomfortable or confused, while going to or from school, teach your children to trust their feelings, immediately get away from that person, and tell you or another trusted adult. If an adult approaches your children for help or directions, remember grownups needing help should not ask children; they should ask other adults. Instruct your children to never accept money or gifts from anyone unless you have told them it is OK to accept in each instance.

4. Even though there may be more safety in numbers, it is still not safe for young children to walk to and from school, especially if they must take isolated routes anytime during the day or in darkness. Always provide supervision for your young children to help ensure their safe arrival to and from school.

5. Instruct your children to leave items and clothing with their name on them at home. If anyone calls out their name, teach them to not be fooled or confused. Teach your children about the tricks someone may try to use to confuse or engage them in conversation. Children should also be taught that they do not need to be polite if approached and to get out of the situation as quickly and safely as possible

6. Ensure current and accurate emergency contact information is on file for your children at their school. If you, or another trusted family member or friend, need to pick up your children, make sure to follow the school's departure procedures. These procedures need to include the school's confirmation of your children's departure with only those you authorize to pick them up.

7. Teach your children that if anyone tries to take them somewhere, they should quickly get away and yell, "This person is trying to take me away" or "This person is not my father/mother/guardian." Teach your children to make a scene and every effort to get away by kicking, screaming and resisting if anyone tries to grab them.

8. Teach your children if anyone follows them on foot to get away from that person as quickly as possible. If anyone follows them in a vehicle, they should turn around, go in the other direction, and try to quickly get to a spot where a trusted adult may help them. Advise them to be sure to tell you or another trusted adult what happened.

9. Instruct your children to never leave school with anyone until they have checked with a trusted adult. If anyone tells them there is an emergency and they want your children to go with them, teach your children to always check first with you before doing anything. Also teach your children to always check with you if they want to change their plans before or after school.

Make sure your children always play with other children, have your permission to play in specific areas, and let you know where they are going to be. Instruct your children to tell a trusted adult if they notice anyone they don't know or don't feel comfortable with hanging around them.

10. In the event your children may be lost or injured, make sure they carry a contact card with your name and telephone numbers such as work and cellular. This card should be hidden from plain view.

For more information, call 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or visit the website at http://www.missingkids.com.

JBPHH Security diligently watches for speedsters

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security will continue to provide safety and security for on base installation roadways for the New Year, 2012.

According to Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) Regional Safety Officer Michael Usui, there were 335 speeding citations issued from Jan. to Nov. 2011 for JBPHH installation.

CNRH Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Marc Sibal said, "Traffic safety is a year-round effort. Lives are precious and valuable and losing one because drivers cannot follow posted rules and regulations is unimaginable. No one needs to get anywhere faster than they safely can."

Department of Defense (DoD) police officer Haig "Noah" Mechaet is one of several patrol officers who continue to keep Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) roadways safe. He and members of JBPHH Security continue to monitor and secure traffic safety for all military and civilian personnel at JBPHH.

"It takes the diligence and discipline by all of us to ensure our roadways are safe for everyone including family and friends," Usui said. "As a reminder, except for emergency vehicles displaying red and/or blue emergency warning lights and siren, vehicles shall not exceed posted speed limits."

- 5 mph in parking lots
- 10 mph when passing troops marching in formation.
- 15 mph in industrial and waterfront areas to include piers, wharves and roads adjacent to dry-docks.
- 15 mph (unless otherwise posted) in housing areas and school zones.
- 25 mph on all roads streets unless otherwise posted or designated by reference (a) or any other applicable instruction or notice.

Department of Defense (DoD) Police Officer Haig "Noah" Mechaet said that in any given shift, patrols catch an average of four to five traffic violations on JBPHH.

JBPHH uses a point system for traffic violations. When the maximum number of points is assigned because of these violations, then vehicle decals are scraped and drivers are no longer allowed to drive their vehicles to work.

"By getting the word out and holding violators accountable," Sibal said. "People need to realize that driving their vehicles on military installations is a privilege and not a right. It remains a privilege until they prove otherwise by not following traffic rules and regulations on base.

DoD Police Officer Lt. David Bright is the day shift Watch Captain at JBPHH Security. He said that most of the reported infractions on base are on speeding.

"Notice that in the Navy Exchange parking lot, the signs are posted at 5 mph. That's backing out of a stall, after that they go Mach two," Bright said. "The next common infractions are minor accidents where they back up their cars on somebody. DUIs follow after that.

"The speed limit signs are out there for a reason," Bright continued. "People don't realize the more you speed the reaction time goes down. Most accidents happen because someone pulled up in front of me. I didn't see him. I didn't look left or right. You do the speed limit. You pay attention on what's around you. A lot less accidents will happen. If you do drink, call a cab, call a friend."

Adm. Haney will replace Adm. Walsh at PACFLT change of command Jan. 20

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Adm. Cecil D. Haney, former deputy of the U.S. Strategic Command, will become commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in a change-of-command ceremony at 10 a.m. Jan. 20 at Pearl Harbor's Kilo Pier.

Haney will succeed Adm. Patrick M. Walsh, who will be retiring after 34 years in the Navy.

Walsh, who has guided the U.S. Navy in the Pacific for more than two years, led all U.S. military relief efforts following the March 11 earthquake, tsunami, and subsequent nuclear crisis in Japan.

The change of command ceremony is a formal transfer of responsibility from one senior naval leader to another. The Jan. 20 event will be a traditional one conducted in a unique military location with the USS Arizona and USS Missouri memorials as a backdrop.

Haney will become the 33rd Navy officer to command the Pacific Fleet since it was established in February 1941 with headquarters at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Past commanders of the Pacific Fleet include such naval giants as Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz and Adm. Raymond Spruance.

U.S. Pacific Fleet protects and defends the collective maritime interests of the United States and its allies and partners in the Asia-Pacific region. In support of U.S. Pacific Command and with allies and partners, U.S. Pacific Fleet enhances stability, promotes maritime security and freedom of the seas, deters aggression and when necessary, fights to win.

The U.S. Pacific Fleet encompasses 100 million square miles, more than half the earth's surface, from the west coast of the United States into the Indian Ocean. The Pacific Fleet consists of approximately 180 ships, nearly 2,000 aircraft and 125,000 Sailors, Marines and civilians.

Diverse Views

"As we observe the birthday holiday of Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 16, what aspects of his legacy and teachings come to your mind and why?"

Airman 1st Class Melissa Arevalo
324th Intelligence Squadron

"I admire his perseverance and how he never gave up on his beliefs no matter how difficult things were for him."

Capt. Angela Edmondson
PACAF A4

"I admire Dr. King for standing up for what is right rather than what was popular."

Airman 1st Class Christopher Minter
561st Network Operations Squadron

"I admire Dr. King for being so brave and fighting for equal rights for us all."

Senior Master Sgt. Jason Ronsse
17th Operational Weather Squadron

"I admire him for standing up when he knew it might cost him his life for his belief that our country was one of freedom and equality for all."

Zach Wilson
Fleet Store, Navy Exchange

"One of the biggest contributions he has done is that he opened the gap, black and white, and brought them together by having the march in D.C. during his time. His message is still rung today in different countries."

Electronics Technician 2nd Class (SW) Michael Robinson
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"He helped open the people's eyes and realize how we are all the same."

John "Keoni" Kuahuia
Fleet Store, Navy Exchange

"One of his biggest contributions is expanding the First Amendment of free speech. He did it in a way that he wasn't aggravating the government but being passive-aggressive which changed a lot of things in politics, how people view the world."

(Provided by David Underwood Jr. and MC2 (SW) Mark Logico)

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

Commissary hours for Martin Luther King Jr. day announced

The Pearl Harbor Commissary will reduce its operational hours for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Jan. 16. It will open at 9 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

Hours for the Hickam Commissary on Jan. 16 are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, call the Pearl Harbor Commissary at 471-8402, ext. 101 and the Hickam Commissary at 449-1363.

Fighter squadron pilot shows off 'true colors' at Hickam

Photo courtesy of T. Merrill

Lt. Col. Kurt Johnson of the 154th Fighter Group of the Hawaii Air National Guard, is shown at the former Hickam Air Force Base in the late 1980s. He is in the cockpit of a 199th Fighter Squadron F-4C "Phantom." Johnson designed the current 199th Fighter Squadron patch, as well as the warrior/aircraft patch shown on the right arm of his flight suit.

HO'OKELE
Pearl Harbor - Hickam News

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NPC leaders to discuss post-ERB, transition matters this month at JBPHH, MCBH

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Capt. Steven Holmes, the director of community management branch for the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and the fleet engagement team from Navy Personnel Command (NPC) will visit Hawaii on Jan. 19-20. The team will hold meetings at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, (MCBH) Kaneohe Bay.

"The team will meet with Sailors, families and leadership and will provide some background on the enlisted rentention board (ERB) and upcoming command and Sailor actions, but the primary focus will be on transition benefits," stated Senior Chief Navy Counselor CS (SW/AW) Tyrone Jiles, region career counselor.

As a result of record high retention and low attrition among active duty Sailors and to meet current and future planned end strength controls, the Navy announced the establishment of a focused ERB for specific ratings that are more than 103 percent manned. The guiding principles for the board are to maintain a balanced force in terms of seniority, experience and skills while meeting reduced end strength controls.

These briefs are open to all hands. ERB-affected Sailors and their spouses are highly encouraged to attend the all-hands sessions.

Listed below is the schedule for both Marine Corps Base Hawaii, (MCBH) Kaneohe Bay and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH):

- 5 to 6:30 p.m. Jan. 19, enlisted brief with family members at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel (ombudsmen welcome to attend).
- 9 to 11 a.m. Jan. 20, all-hands brief for officers, chiefs, enlisted and family members at the MCBH Kaneohe Bay theater.
- 11 a.m. to noon Jan. 20, leadership roundtable at Kaneohe Bay theater with Holmes and personnel readiness (PERS 4013) commanding officers, command master chiefs and leadership teams who have ERB-affected Sailors).
- Noon to 1 p.m. Jan. 20, lunch en route to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.
- 1 to 3 p.m. Jan. 20, all-hands brief for officers, chiefs, enlisted and family members at Sharkey Theater.
- 3 to 4 p.m. Jan. 20, leadership roundtable with Holmes and PERS 4013 at Sharkey Theater.

Representatives from NPC's fleet engagement team will meet with Sailors, families and leadership in Japan and Hawaii this month to discuss personnel policies and force management measures impacting the fleet, officials said Jan. 6.

Holmes said, "These visits are also an excellent opportunity to get feedback directly from the fleet and share personnel policy information directly from the source."

Representatives from the enlisted distribution division, enlisted community managers and the Navy's ERB transition assistance coordinator will conduct all-hands briefs geared for transitioning Sailors, including specific information for Sailors not retained by the ERB, as well as guidance specific to Sailors transitioning from overseas.

Besides Hawaii, the team will be in Japan at Yokosuka Naval Base on Jan. 17 and Naval Air Facility Atsugi on Jan. 18.

The fleet engagement team will also conduct a leadership roundtable for commanding officers and their command teams at each site for commands that have ERB affected Sailors.

"It is imperative that every leader in the chain of command take an active role in the transition process to ensure each Sailor is optimally prepared whether they leave the Navy after four years of service or 30," Holmes said.

Navy Counselor 1st Class Rex Parmelee of Commander Pacific Fleet said, "I find it important to provide our Sailors with as much career information as possible especially when it comes to key force shaping tools such as ERB and Perform to Serve. With a Sailor owning 51 percent of their career, these training avenues allow Sailors and family members the opportunity to have their challenging questions answered first hand by the fleet engagement team.

"In my opinion, a Sailor that is not willing to learn about ERB, PTS and other key programs in career development is like a ship going dead in the water during a Strait of Hormuz transit. It's just dangerous and the outcome can become very negative," he said.

For more information on the Hawaii briefings, call Jiles at 473-0838.

U.S. Air Force Maj. Kirsten Aguilar of the PACAF 647 FSS/CC said the Air Force does not use enlisted retention boards but does employ other force management programs for the enlisted force, like date of separation (DOS) rollback, NCO retraining program, high year tenure (HYR) adjustments and career job reservations to manage the end strength. Information is shared with commanders, chiefs and first sergeants as the Air Force announces these programs, but there are no formal meetings planned.

Pearl Harbor shipyard saves taxpayers $1.1 million by reusing surplus DoD material

Story and photo by Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard saved taxpayers $1.1 million in fiscal year 2011by reusing excess equipment and material from other military activitiesinstead of buying it new. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Disposition

Services commended the shipyard and added the Pearl Harbor command to its "million dollar board" website honoring leaders of fiscal stewardship.

"Meeting and exceeding the challenges of today¹s warfighter while remaining fiscally focused certainly deserves recognition," said Tina Aldrich, DLA disposition services director of customer support, in a letter to the shipyard dated Nov. 30.

Marine Machinery Mechanic Supervisor II Gregory Keanu checks out the contents of a mechanic's tool kit valued at $1,600 on Dec. 15. The tool kit was acquired for free as excess material from Defense Logistics Agency.

"I want to pass on a note of sincere appreciation and applaud those efforts," she said.

Aldrich noted the shipyard submitted requisitions for excess military property, resulting in a cost avoidance of $1,102,061.83."

Half of that amount, $525,000, was due to Gregory Keanu, a mechanical shop general foreman and leader of the mechanical community of practice (CoP).

Members of the CoP submitted 323 requisitions for tools, furniture, office supplies, "anything and everything," he said.

At first he was interested in finding items for his CoP but expanded his focus when he saw what was available. "I look for stuff other shops can use (too,)" he explained.

His single largest acquisition was in January 2011 for an entire tool set, including cabinets, for an automotive shop. Valued at $90,000, the tools were used by the mechanical CoP to assemble kits for nuclear work.

Last May, he found 41 magnetic white boards in sizes 4-by-6 feet and 3-by-5 feet. These were distributed to production resources department training facilities.

Citing other examples, Keanu found 14 electronic tool kits that went to the electrical CoP. The Virginia-class project got 40 weatherproof, heavy-duty, hard plastic, wheeled, 2-by-4 foot storage cases worth $32,000. He even found several cases of three-ring binders for office use. "The list goes on," he said.

Keanu noted that acquiring surplus material on a large scale requires a team effort. "We receive help from other shops and codes to retrieve a lot of these items," he said.

Painter Dennis Vanderpool, on loan to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, picked up $53,000 worth of property, including file cabinets, chairs, video equipment and cross-cut shredders, in the last eight months of calendar year 2011.

"With today's budget shortfalls, everybody should be using this system (DLA Disposition Services)," Vanderpool said. "There's a lot of material that can be reutilized here in Hawaii instead of being shipped to the mainland."

Formerly known as Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service and still often referred to as DRMO, DLA Disposition Services disposes of excess property from the military services. According to its website, inventory changes daily and includes thousands of items, from air conditioners to computers to vehicles. The website is www.dispositionservices.dla.mil/index.shtml.

The agency encourages government agencies to use its services, noting "every dollar¹s worth of property reutilized is a tax dollar saved."

On Oahu, DLA Disposition ServicesHawaii is located in Kalaeloa at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station. For more information, call 471-3890.

Press club learns from leader

Capt. Andrew Stewart, deputy chief, 15th Wing Command Post, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii talks with members of the Japan National Press Club in the cockpit of a C-17 Globemaster on Jan. 11. Stewart was involved in humanitarian assistance during Operation Tomadachi in Japan.

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

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Jan. 19: Special Navy guest
Jan. 26: Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
Feb. 2: Wounded Warriors
Feb. 9: Tripler Trauma Center/Fisher House
Feb. 16: to be determined

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?
Email editor@hookelenews.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, bid aloha to Adm. Robert Willard, (right) commander of U.S. Pacific Command, and Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, and his wife, Kelly as Obama and the first family prepare to depart the 15th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on Jan. 2. During the first family's visit, they enjoyed the beach in Kailua, visited the Pearl Harbor memorials and visited with service members during the holidays.

U.S. Air Force photo SrA Lauren Main

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, presents a command coin to Janet Rochefort, the daughter of Joseph Rochefort. Rochefort, a cryptanalyst, played a pivotal role in the Navy during World War II, helping achieve victory in the Battle of Midway.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Sean Furey

Ensign Kristen Eriksen, first lieutenant on guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73), steers the ship while Seaman London Waldon stands watch, during man-overboard training in the Arabian Gulf on Jan. 1. Port Royal is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emma Mattson

Members of the replenishment at-sea detail stand by as guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) makes her approach alongside Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Joshua Humphreys (T-AO 188) in the Arabian Gulf on Jan. 3.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Emma Mattson

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 James R. Evans

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) and the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) maneuver behind the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) during a replenishment at sea with the Military Sealift Command fast combat support ship USNS Bridge (T-AOE 10). Carl Vinson and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 17 are underway on a western Pacific deployment.

Chief of Naval Operations: Navy advances Asia-Pacific partnerships

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Kyle P. Malloy

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert delivers remarks during the 24th Annual Surface Navy Association Symposium. This year's theme is "Surface Navy: A Credible Force in Uncertain Times."

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy is working to bolster existing partnerships and forge new ones in Asia and the Pacific, an initiative that supports U.S. Pacific Command's overarching goals in implementing the new defense strategic guidance, the service's top officer said Jan. 10.

Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, chief of naval operations, told a forum at the Center for a New American Security that the Navy will focus largely on relationships - rather than a naval buildup in the region - to support President Barack Obama's strategic guidance.

The new strategic guidance, announced last week to guide the military through 2020, underscores the growing strategic importance of Asia and the Pacific.

Greenert noted that the Navy will need to review its numbers of ships, aircraft and equipment and how they are distributed around the world in light of the new guidance.

"But my first assessment is we're in good shape in the Navy where we stand in the western Pacific," he said.

He noted the strong naval presence already there. "On any given day, ... we have 50 ships underway in the western Pacific," he said, with about half of those forward-deployed naval forces in and around Japan.

"We put our best in the western Pacific," he said. This includes not only "the most advanced air wing we have, the most advanced cruisers and destroyers, ordnance [and] anti-submarine warfare," he said, but also carefully screened commanders and Sailors.

Emphasizing the need for the U.S. Navy to be "tangibly present out there," Greenert said it enhances that presence by continuing to nurture partnerships and potential partners.

"There are many out there, and they are growing, through a range of missions that we will have to foster," he said, some through closely integrated operations and some in a more ad hoc manner.

Greenert also expressed a need to continue dialogue and work toward a relationship with China.

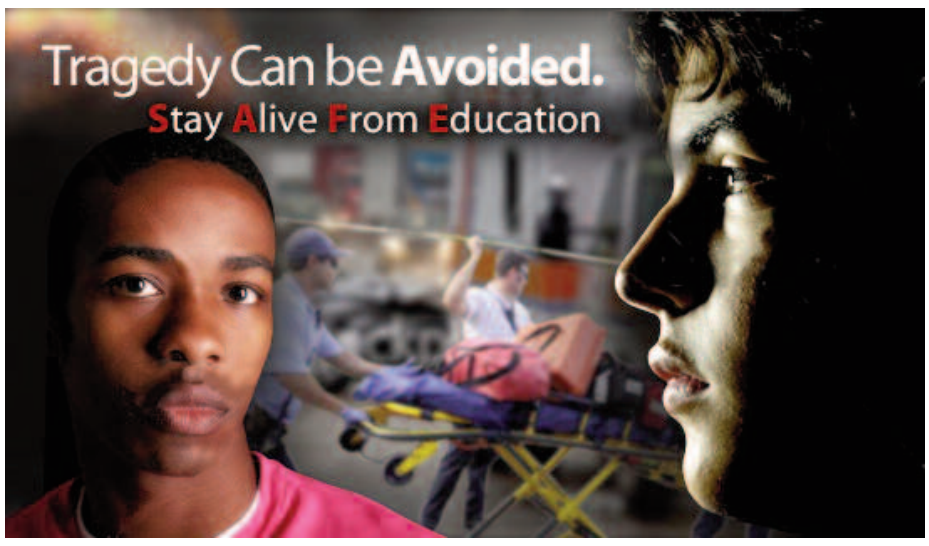
Navy Adm. Robert F. Willard, U.S. Pacific Command commander, struck these same notes earlier this week during an address to the Hawaii Military Partnership Conference.

U.S. relationships with Asian allies and key partners will remain critical to the region's future stability and growth, he said. So while strengthening existing alliances that have provided a vital foundation for regional security, Willard said, the United States also will strive to forge closer ties with emerging regional partners.

Airmen are brought face to face with consequences of poor decisions

SrA Lauren Main

15th Wing Public Affairs



The gentle hum of whispers filling the auditorium of the Hickam base theater died down as a slideshow began. The unmistakable crackle of a recorded 9-1-1 responder call grabbed everyone's attention.

"I have a possible drunk driver in critical condition. Vital signs are weak ..."

The slideshow began to filter through images of horrific, traumatic accidents: bodies lying on the side of the road, lifeless people on the hood of their own cars, and scenes that were enough to leave some with nightmares.

As the slide show ended, Joeseph McCluan, assistant director of Florida Safe Inc., took the stage.

"We didn't show you those pictures to scare you," he said. "And believe me, all of them were real, I wish they weren't. But we showed these to you, to show you what happens when you don't wear your seatbelt, when you drink and drive or answer the text message that takes your life."

McCluan and his fellow fire fighter paramedic, Scott Neusch, are members of Florida Safe Inc., an organization that travels the world speaking to young people about safety. Recently, they traveled to Oahu and gave safety presentations to military installations around the island including Camp Smith, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The statistics presented to the room during the presentation were alarming, and the numbers were bound to affect a portion of the Airmen in attendance.

"One in every hundred people dies from some type of traumatic accident," McCluan said. "That means at least two of you in here will be a victim."

The Airmen were speechless.

As the presentation progressed and the facts became more sobering, the audience became enthralled with what they were seeing, but no one more so than Senior Airman Justin Oglesby, assigned to the 324th Intelligence Squadron.

Oglesby was called upon to be a volunteer to help demonstrate what paramedics must go through to save the life of a victim who was critically injured in a car accident in which they weren't wearing their seatbelt.

McCluan set the stage for the scenario and presented the circumstances to the audience.

In the hypothetical scenario, Oglesby was returning from a party, intoxicated, when he answered a text message. The brief distraction from the road caused Oglesby to crash his car into an oncoming vehicle, causing, Oglesby, who was not wearing his seatbelt, to fly through the windshield of his car.

The paramedics painted a grim picture in separate outcomes. During one, Oglesby died and the paramedics had to notify his family. During the second scenario, Oglesby lived and had to undergo painful, life-saving measures in order to live the rest of his life in a wheelchair.

"Being on the table was the most impactful part of that presentation for me," Oglesby said. "I will definitely refrain from texting and driving in the future."