

Americans observe true meaning of

Memorial Day

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Contributing Writer

Since May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery, Americans have set aside a day in May to remember those who have died in our nation's service.

Unfortunately, in today's busy world the true meaning of Memorial Day can sometimes get lost amidst the extensive planning for a three-day federal holiday.

Although Memorial Day often marks the beginning of summer, it is a sanctioned holiday that also reminds us about the true heroes who paid the ultimate price for our nation's well-enjoyed freedom.

As part of the military community, we should never forget that our liberties were first earned on the battlefield.

In fact, Memorial Day, formerly known as Decoration

Day, was originally intended to honor Union soldiers who died during the American Civil War. After World War I, the day was extended to honor active-duty service members who gave their lives in any way or military action.

General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, officially proclaimed Memorial Day in May 1868.

Tradition has it that he chose that particular month because flowers were in full bloom and would allow Logan to properly commemorate the day by placing the flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers that had been slain in the Civil War and laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Today, the tradition still continues and the flowers have since changed to flags. This Memorial Day, hundreds of white tombstones gracing the country's various national and veteran's memorial cemeteries will bear small American flags at every gravestone- all tributes from a grateful nation. In Hawai'i, floral lei are also placed on the many grave sites, including National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

During this weekend, as we continue with our planned-picnics, barbecues and family time, hopefully, we can make the time to pay our respects to our nation's brave sons and daughters and their immeasurable sacrifices.

Memorial Day WEEKEND EVENTS

May 22

7 p.m. - Special Olympics State Summer Games opening ceremony, University of Hawai'i, Les Murakami Stadium

May 24

10 a.m. - Pacific American Foundation Roll Call of Honor, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)

1 p.m. - Boy Scouts Good Turn Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)

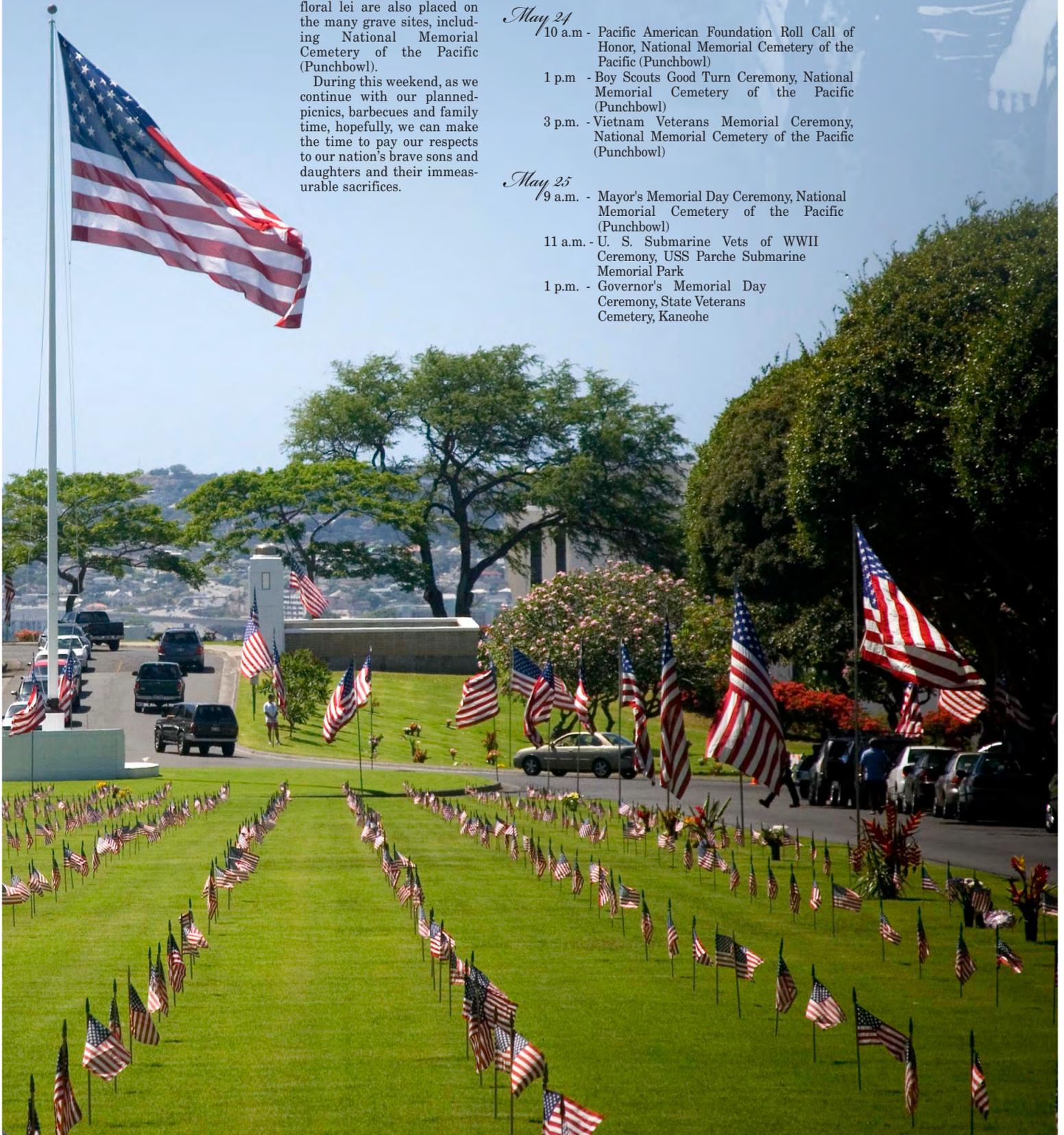
3 p.m. - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)

May 25

9 a.m. - Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)

11 a.m. - U. S. Submarine Vets of WWII Ceremony, USS Parche Submarine Memorial Park

1 p.m. - Governor's Memorial Day Ceremony, State Veterans Cemetery, Kaneohe



Pearl Harbor girls prepare for state tournament

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

In anticipation of playing in its first Amateur Softball Association (ASA) fastpitch softball state tournament, the Pearl Harbor U12 girls softball squad played an exhibition game against a team from Hickam Air Force Base at Nimitz Field at Pearl Harbor on May 16.

This year's ASA U12 state tournament will be held at Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park in Waipio from May 25-31.

Pearl Harbor head coach Tracy Springstead said while the girls still have quite a way to go, they will give it their all in the week-long event that welcomes the top teams from around the state.

"This will be our first year so we want the girls to get a good feel of what it's like," said Springstead, who was a collegiate division II pitcher at Mississippi University. "We



A pitcher for the Pearl Harbor U12 girls' softball team hurls a fast pitch to a batter from a girls' team from Hickam Air Force Base during an exhibition game May 16 at Nimitz Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

will do the best that we can."

Against Hickam, the Pearl Harbor girls got a

chance to build upon skills and techniques that they have worked on since the season began nearly three

months ago.

Since many of the girls are fairly new to fastpitch softball, Springstead said that she started off the year by teaching basic fundamentals, such as, fielding, throwing and hitting.

While the team began slowly, Springstead noted that she has seen tremendous improvement from the early days of the season and believes that the best is still yet to come.

"We're growing," she admitted. "They have improved in so many areas. We're still struggling on making basic decisions, but they are hitting the ball and their throwing has gotten better."

Air Force Maj. Chris Howard, who is the head coach of Hickam, said that like Pearl Harbor, his team is full of first-time players that have improved by leaps and bounds.

Of the 14 girls on the Hickam team, only seven players have previous experience in fastpitch softball.

While Hickam does not participate in the ASA,

Howard said that the girls work just as hard at honing their skills in practice and during their games against Pearl Harbor.

"They are 100 percent better than the first game we played," said Howard. "I'm not having to tell them the same stuff that I was in the beginning of the season. I'm very happy with these girls."

If there is a philosophy that is shared between both coaches, it is that they try to make sure that the girls are having fun.

Springstead and her coaches reinforce what the girls have learned by praising them for their effort. And if they make an error or fail to get a hit, that's OK too, she said, as long as they give it their best.

"It's all about having fun. There's no pressure," pointed out Springstead, who added that building camaraderie is just as important as playing ball.

So far this season, the coaching staff has put together outings, such as going out to UH Rainbow Wahine Stadium to watch

the University of Hawai'i softball team in action.

"I want them to have a good experience," said Springstead. "It shouldn't be that they have to walk the line all the time. I want them to have fun. We go to the movies and they have sleepovers. It's not just softball."

Although this is her first season as a head coach, Springstead said that she is enjoying herself and is looking for the time when Pearl Harbor will be able to successfully compete against the more experienced teams in the ASA.

As a former collegiate player, Springstead stated that she hopes other girls will look to her as an example of what they can do if they have the desire to go beyond youth softball.

"I want them to know that if any of them have the dream of continuing on, this is where it starts," she said.

Pearl Harbor is part of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation youth sports program.

For more information, call 474-3501.



Military Day at the Honolulu Zoo

Enjoy Military Day at the Honolulu Zoo from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 6. p.m.

This event is free to all active duty, reservists, retirees and their family members with a military ID. The first 8,000 people will receive free snacks.

There will be food, entertainment, activities, crafts and games, along with robotics demonstrations. The event is presented by USO Hawai'i in partnership with the City and County of Honolulu and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i.

Shuttle service will be provided from various military bases as well as the Kapiolani Community Center.

For Navy personnel, shuttles will be available from the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange NEX Mall.

Hawai'i Wounded Warriors Canoe Regatta

Fleet and Family Readiness, Marketing

In recognition of Hawai'i Wounded Warriors, Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host a canoe regatta from 9 a.m.-noon May 30 at Rainbow Bay Marina Canoe Hale.

The regatta is open to all active duty military personnel who can form a six-per-

son team including a steersperson. The cost is \$25 per crew.

Awards will be given to the top five finishers in each of the following divisions: Wounded Warrior, military commands, military clubs, elite forces and mixed crews. Registration forms are available online at www.greatlifehawaii.com.

For more information, call Rainbow Bay Marina at 473-0279.



Skylark CENTRAL

WORD SEARCH
Find these 42 words we use to **RENEW**

ADJUST	FACE-LIFT	U E G A V L A S F W G I O T E S
OVERHAUL	REDECORATE	T H C T A P E R E M O D E L T E
RENEW	SALVAGE	R E S T O R E N O V A T E R D T
AMEND	FIX UP	E A S C V A E D E T E F A P G R
PATCH	REDO	V L E I I R E D R O N I T U P I
RENOVATE	SERVICE	I H C S V R N R O O G L B X U G
CORRECT	FRESHEN	T E S G N E G R A H C E R I H H
PUT IN ORDER	REFURBISH	A O R I R T R T T S D C A F C T
REPAIR	SET RIGHT	L V Z E B A H E R E P A I R U R
CURE	HEAL	I E T E C R N M T L E F U T O E
REBUILD	REHAB	Z R Y V R O U A C B V H C R T V
RESTORE	STRAIGHTEN OUT	E H N R U C N F D U O E E D R F
DEBUG	IMPROVE	C A D T M E N D E O R O N T Y R
RECHARGE	REJUVENATE	R U O S V D V D I R P E H D E E
REVISE	TOUCH UP	D L I U B E R M O T M G E V D S
DO OVER	MEND	E R J J R R E C L A I M O P V H
RECLAIM	REMEDY	R E D D O C T O R R E O L G U E
REVITALIZE	TROUBLESHOOT	R E D A R G P U X R D E N T T N
DOCTOR	MODERNIZE	
RECONDITION	REMODEL	
RIGHT	UPGRADE	

WHO SAID IT?
“The Navy has both a tradition and a future – and we look with pride and confidence in both directions.”

LAST ISSUE'S
WHO SAID IT?
“A GOOD NAVY IS NOT A PROVOCATION TO WAR. IT IS THE SUREST GUARANTY OF PEACE.”
- Theodore Roosevelt

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION
Find these 34 used to describe **YOUNGER PEOPLE**

ADOLESCENT	TYKE	L A O N G N C T N A F N I O I Y
LAMB	INFANT	I N S I O P N H E D R S O E B O
SCHOOLGIRL	MOPPET	T N R H S L T E I O A L L U H U
BABY	URCHIN	T L L U A R Y O B L O O H C S N
LASS	INNOCENT	L N E M G V K W L E D L O S J G
SHAVER	NEWBORN	E F B E B R E N R S T L I R U E
BOY	WHIPPERSNAPPER	S R I A I N A B E C L A L E V R
LITTLE MISS	JUNIOR	Q H B N L I T T L E M I S S E G
SMALL FRY	PRETEEN	U Y T M N Y I I E N T R T T N E
CHILD	YOUNGER	I R O E T O S N D T U E S R I N
LITTLE ONE	JUVENILE	R F C E P B C L L S E G R I L E
STRIPLING	RUG RAT	T L W H I P P E R S N A P P E R
COLLEEN	YOUNGSTER	I L N Y I R O I N U J N S L D A
LITTLE SQUIRT	KID	D A L R O N I M O T O E T I L T
TEENAGER	SCHOOLBOY	T M R A E U U Y T I C E K N L I
GIRL	YOUTH	R S Y O S E T E E I R T P G E O
MINOR	LAD	E P H H N S C H O O L G I R L N

This Week's Trivia
What was the first U.S. Navy plane to make a trans-Atlantic crossing?



Last Issue's Question:
What was the largest flying boat ever built for the U.S. Navy?

Answer:
The "MARS" manufactured by Martin.

Navy Region Hawai'i Manawa Nanea

Morale Welfare & Recreation

☞ SINGLE SAILORS TRIP TO WET 'N' WILD HAWAII

Single Sailors are invited for a special trip to Wet 'n' Wild (formerly Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park) on Saturday. Transportation departs from Liberty in Paradise at 9 a.m. The cost is \$29 per person, which includes transportation to and from the park. FMI: 473-4279.

☞ NAVY-MARINE GOLF COURSE SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

The Navy-Marine Golf Course will have special holiday hours of operation on Memorial Day, May 25. The 1 and 10 tee times will be held from 7-8:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. FMI: 471-0142.

☞ MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY FUN AT SCOTT POOL

Come celebrate Memorial Day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Scott Pool with games, prizes, slip-n-slides, bounce houses and other fun activities. FMI: 474-5149.

☞ SINGLE SAILORS ICE SKATING TRIP

Single Sailors are invited on a special ice skating trip to Ice Palace on May 29. Transportation departs from Liberty in Paradise starting at 6 p.m. The cost is \$8.75 per person, which includes skate rental and transportation to and from the arena. FMI: 473-4279.

☞ MOVIE NIGHT AT SCOTT POOL

A movie night will be held at Scott Pool on May 29. FMI: 474-5149 after May 25.

☞ FREE ADVANCE SCREENING AT SHARKEY THEATER

Sharkey Theater will host a free advance screening on May 30. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the movie will start at 7 p.m. Only the first 450 eligible patrons will be seated. FMI: 473-0726.

For more information on Navy Region Hawai'i MWR events, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com

Community Calendar

☞ May

☞ 23-24 ~ The Navy Exchange (NEX) at Pearl Harbor will host Navy Exchange Fitness and Wellness Expo from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the NEX. The expo will include various demonstrations such as cardio kickboxing, belly dancing and a special martial arts demo by Kong's Siu Lum Pai Kung Fu Association. There will also be a sunglasses giveaway, specials on health and fitness products, and an appearance by the Navy Athlete of the Year. Sign up for the sporting goods Diamond Back bike giveaway (Saturday and Sunday). Stop by the beauty salon for free mini facials and massages. FMI: 423-3274 or visit the Aloha Center.

☞ 26 ~ The NEX will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the NEX Rotunda.

☞ 29 ~ Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific will present a special seminar in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month from 11 a.m. to noon at Lockwood Hall lanai. The seminar's theme is "Leadership to Meet the Challenge of a Changing World." Guest speakers will include Maj. Gen. Robert G. F. Lee, adjutant general for the state of Hawai'i and director of State Civil Defense, and Dr. Amy Agbayani, director and founder of the UH Manoa office of student excellence for equity and diversity. FMI: 590-1190.

☞ 30 ~ Judy Delacruz, author of "Crochet Lei Making in Hawaii," will be at the NEX from noon-2 p.m. to sign copies of her recent book.

☞ At a glance

☞ The NEX will hold a computer give-away this month. NEX patrons may enter to win a Dell Mini 10 Notebook throughout the month of May. Registration forms and drop off points can be found at the NEX.

Sharkey Showtimes



Knowing (PG 13)

A teacher opens a time capsule that has been dug up at his son's elementary school. In it are some chilling predictions – some that have already occurred and others that are about to. That leads him to believe his family plays a role in the events that are about to unfold.

TODAY

7:00 PM Fast and Furious 4 (PG 13)

SATURDAY

2:30 PM Dragonball Evolution (PG)

4:45 PM Knowing (PG 13)

7:15 PM The Haunting in Connecticut (PG 13)

SUNDAY

2:30 PM Dragonball Evolution (PG)

4:45 PM Monsters vs Aliens (PG)

7:00 PM Fast and Furious 4 (R)

