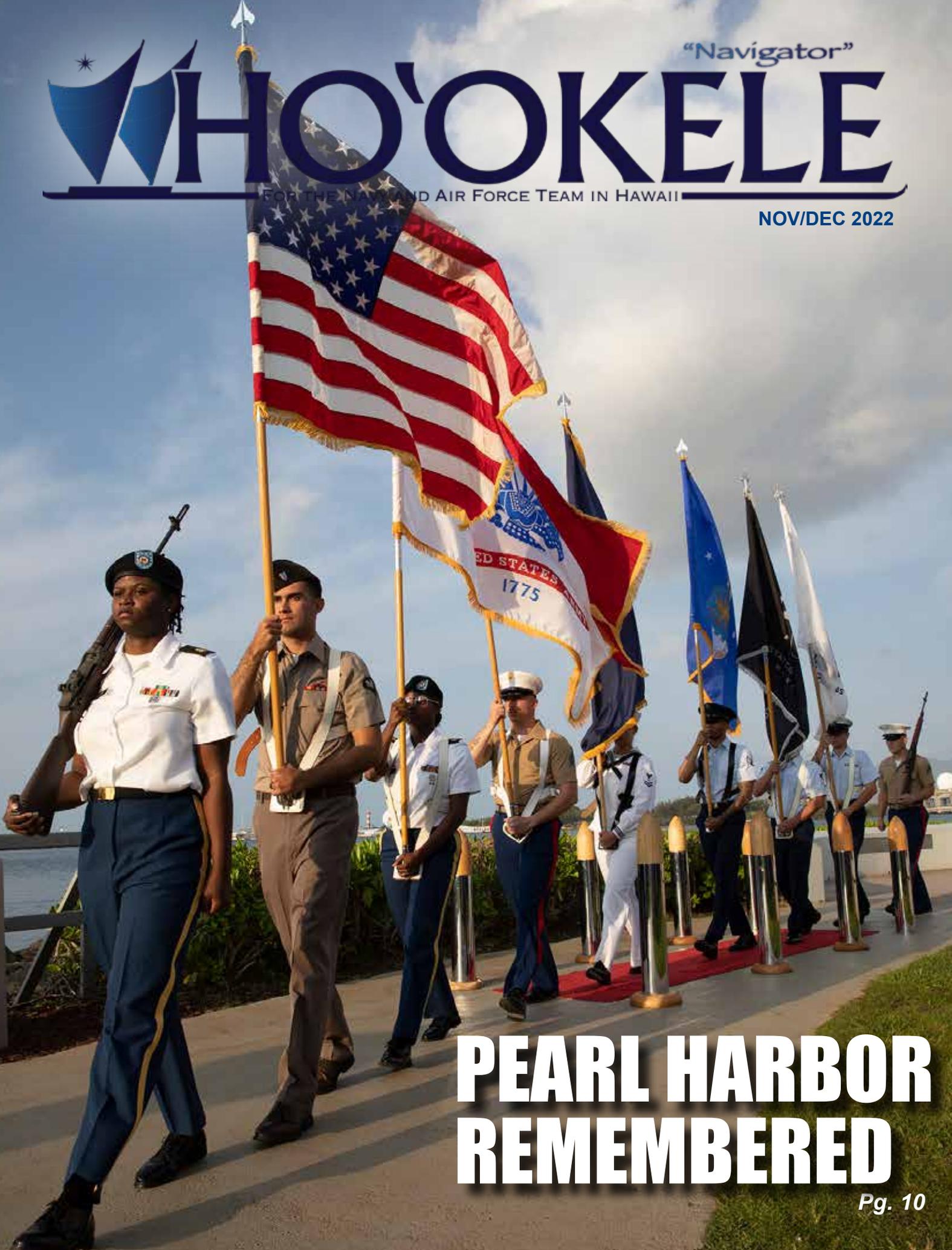




“Navigator”  
**WHO'OKELE**

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

NOV/DEC 2022



# PEARL HARBOR REMEMBERED



# JAPAN, MDA LAUNCH MISSILE TEST AT PMRF

A Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block IIA is launched from the JS Maya as part of the first live-fire demonstration of Japan Flight Test Mission-07 (JFTM-07) Nov. 15. The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA), in cooperation with the U.S. Navy, held JFTM-07 at the Pacific Missile Range Facility in Kauai, Hawaii. The SM-3 Block IIA interceptor operates as part of the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense system and can be launched from Aegis-equipped ships or Aegis Ashore sites. (Photo by Heather Cavaliere)



Check out our new Ho'okele video show under recent videos on CNRH DVIDS:

- CNRH DVIDS: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/C-NRH>

The Ho'okele magazine is available online:

- CNRH website: <https://cnrh.cnrc.navy.mil/>

- CNRH DVIDS: <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/841/hookele>

- CNRH Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NavyRegionHawaii>

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**Director of Public Affairs, Navy Region Hawaii**  
Lydia Robertson

**Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Navy Region Hawaii**  
Mike Andrews

**Director of Public Affairs, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam**  
Chuck Anthony

**Director of Public Affairs, Pacific Missile Range Facility**  
Vacant

**Ho'okele Editor**  
Anna Marie General

**Military Editor**  
MCC Christopher Blachly

**Video Editor**  
Melvin Gonzalvo

**Production Team**  
Elaine Phillips  
MC2 Gregory Hall  
MC2 Samantha Jetzer  
MC2 Bodie Estep  
Staff Sgt. Jacob Thompson

**ON THE COVER:**



The Joint Service Color Guard presents the colors as part of the 81st Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)



Ho'okele is a free publication.

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, JBPHH, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876. This is an authorized publication primarily for members of the uniformed military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, and the military branch of services and do not imply endorsement thereof. A Hui Hou!

**Your Navy Team in Hawaii**

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii oversees two installations: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, on Kauai. We provide oversight for the ten surface ships homeported at JBPHH. Navy aircraft squadrons are also co-located at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Oahu, and training is sometimes also conducted on other islands, but most Navy assets are located at JBPHH and PMRF. These two installations serve fleet, fighter and family under the direction of Commander, Navy Installations Command.

The guided-missile cruiser and destroyers of Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific deploy independently or as part of a group for Commander, U.S. Third Fleet and in the Seventh Fleet and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility. The Navy, including your Navy team in Hawaii, builds partnerships and strengthens interoperability in the Pacific. Each year, Navy ships, submarines and aircraft from Hawaii participate in various training exercises with allies and friends in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to strengthen interoperability. Navy service members and civilians conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions in the South Pacific and in Asia. Working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy in Hawaii provides drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement operations for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In even-numbered years, Hawaii hosts the biennial summer Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the world's largest military maritime exercise, featuring more than two dozen nations and 25,000 personnel.

The Navy family in Hawaii comprises around 50,000 people, most of whom are active duty service members and their families, and includes nearly 15,000 civilians and contractors as part of our workforce.

JBPHH includes the Pearl Harbor waterfront, Hickam flight line, Wahiawa annex and several other areas in West Oahu and provides a major logistics and other support hub for the military and military families. Supporting the nation's ballistic missile defense initiative, the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the western coast of "The Garden Island," is the world's largest instrumented multidimensional testing and training missile range.

We provide services to the U.S. Pacific Command, one of DOD's six geographic combatant commands, with an area of responsibility covering half the globe. We directly support two component commands whose headquarters are on JBPHH: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Force. Close to our own Region/MIDPAC headquarters command is Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. With 18 forward-deployable combat-ready U.S. Navy submarines, Pearl Harbor is home to the largest submarine presence in the Pacific. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, on JBPHH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region, we support more than 100 tenant commands.

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Commander  
Navy Region Hawaii  
**REAR ADM. STEPHEN BARNETT**



Commander  
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# DOD INCREASE BAH RATES

The Department of Defense (DoD) has released the 2023 Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates. BAH rates will increase an average of 12.1% when the new rates take effect on Jan. 1, 2023.

An estimated \$26.8 billion will be paid to approximately one million service members. The significant increase in average BAH rates is reflective of the unique market conditions experienced across many locations nationwide over the past year.

While average BAH rates increased substantially, different rental markets experience different market trends, and the 2023 BAH rates reflect those geographic market condition differences.

The temporary automatic BAH rate increases DoD authorized effective Oct. 1, 2022 for 28 military housing areas across the country will expire on Dec. 31, 2022 and will be replaced by 2023 BAH rates. There are only marginal changes between the automatically increased rates and the 2023 rates (most rates are unchanged).

The department collects rental housing cost data annually for approximately 300 military housing areas in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

The BAH rate-setting process relies on a wide variety of data sources (e.g., U.S. Census Bureau survey data, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, commercial subscription rental cost databases, industry-leading online rental listing websites, and input from the services and local military installation housing offices, among other sources) to obtain high-quality, accurate, current-year housing cost data.

Median current market rent and average utilities (including electricity, heat, and water/sewer) comprise the total housing cost for each military housing area and are included in the BAH computation. Total housing costs are determined for six housing profiles (based on dwelling type and number of

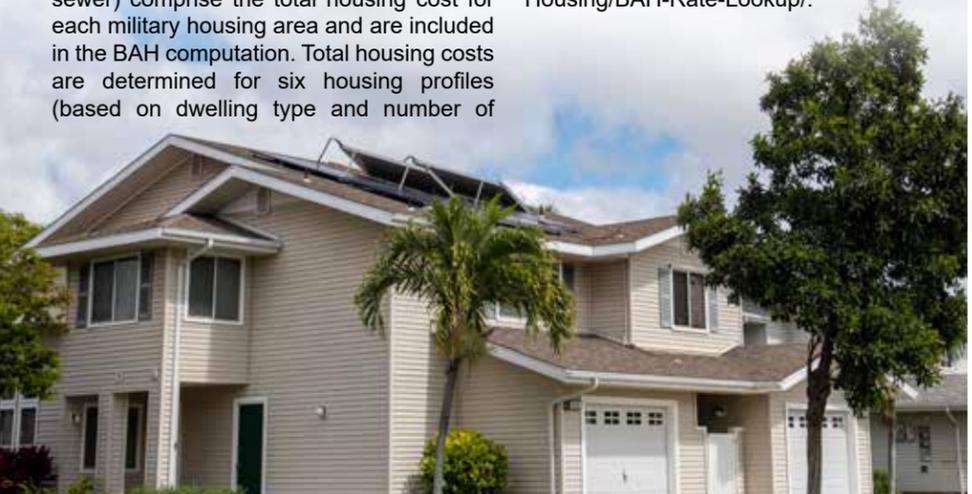
bedrooms) in each military housing area. BAH rates are then calculated for each pay grade, both with and without dependents, based on the housing choices of civilians with comparable incomes to each service member pay grade grouping.

The 2023 BAH rates, as part of a robust military compensation package, continue the member cost-sharing element at five percent of the national average housing cost by pay grade. These amounts vary by grade and dependency status and range from \$82 to \$184 monthly for the 2023 rates. Even with this cost-sharing element, the overall military pay and benefits package remains competitive and healthy.

An integral part of the BAH program is the provision of individual rate protection to all members. No matter what happens to measured housing costs – including the out-of-pocket expense adjustment – an individual member who maintains uninterrupted BAH eligibility in a given location will not see his/her BAH rate decrease. This ensures that members who have made long-term commitments in the form of a lease or contract are not penalized if the area's housing costs decrease.

The department is committed to the preservation of a compensation and benefit structure that provides members with an adequate standard of living to sustain a trained, experienced, and ready force now and in the future.

For more information on the BAH, including the 2023 BAH rates and 2023 BAH rate component breakdown, visit <https://www.travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Basic-Allowance-for-Housing/>. Service members can calculate their BAH payment by using the BAH calculator at: <https://www.travel.dod.mil/Allowances/Basic-Allowance-for-Housing/BAH-Rate-Lookup/>.



SECDEF MESSAGE

## Focus on Safety this Winter Holiday Season



Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III

The winter holidays are a joyous time of year focused on spending quality time with family and friends and enjoying a break from our daily stresses to prepare for a new year.

However, the holidays can also present unique hazards. Historically, the holiday season between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day is a high risk period for off-duty preventable mishaps due to the hazards posed by travel, inclement weather, and holiday stress.

Last year was no exception, with 13 service members lost, primarily due to private motor vehicle accidents.

To ensure you and your families remain safe and injury-free, I ask that each member of the department prioritize safety, exercise sound judgment, and use the proper precautions while enjoying this holiday season.

Please be mindful of potential safety hazards at work, home, and especially on the roads. Pay close attention to weather conditions, maintain proper awareness of your surroundings, don't drive if impaired or overly fatigued, and always wear your seatbelt.

Also, make sure you continue to safely and securely store potentially dangerous items in your home, like medication and firearms.

Though many people look forward to the festivities of the holiday season, mental health can be a significant challenge during this time of year for others. If you, a colleague, or a loved one needs assistance related to thoughts of suicide, at any time, call 988, the Suicide and Crisis Hotline. Service members who call the 988 hotline may also be connected to the confidential Veterans Crisis Line/Military Crisis Line by pressing 1. For our civilian employees in need of support, confidential help is also available through your local Civilian Employee Assistance Program.

I encourage each of you to dedicate this time to be with your loved ones and recharge for the upcoming New Year, but please do so safely, and please look out for one another. Thank you for everything you and your families do to defend this nation. I wish all of you a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

## RED HILL UPDATE:

# AFFF REMEDIATION EFFORT

Courtesy story by JTF-RH Public Affairs

Joint Task Force - Red Hill issued the following informational update Dec. 9 regarding cleanup and remediation of the Nov. 29 Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) release at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility:

On Dec. 8, representatives from the Hawaii Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency viewed footage of the AFFF release captured by a video camera outside Adit 6 of the facility.

The footage is part of the Department of Defense investigation into the incident and will be publicly released when doing so will no longer affect the course of the investigation.

The Navy continues to collect soil samples from the release site to test for PFAS. All samples are sent to an off-island U.S. EPA-certified lab for testing. The first results are expected next week.

As part of the ongoing water monitoring, the Navy is collecting ground-water samples from nine monitoring wells in the vicinity of the AFFF release site, as well as groundwater samples from the Red Hill shaft, to monitor for AFFF constituents. Soil excavation in and around the spill release site is complete.

In coordination with regulatory agencies a storm culvert that runs beneath the access road near the spill site is scheduled for removal.

The latest photos of the site remediation may be found at: <https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/JointTaskForceRedHill> Joint Task Force - Red Hill was established by the Secretary of Defense to ensure the safe and expeditious defueling of the RHBFSF. Importantly, Joint Task Force – Red Hill is also committed to consistent engagement with local stakeholders to rebuild trust with the people of Hawaii.

For more information or to provide public comment via our contact form, please visit <https://www.pacom.mil/JTF-Red-Hill/>.



### Tier 1 Public Notification Rule Violation

Per Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) 11-20-18(b) (1)(G) a public water system must provide Tier 1 public notice within 24-hour for all national primary drinking water regulation violations and other situations as determined by the State. The Navy initially failed to provide a Tier 1 public notification with all required specific components to JBPHH water users for the November 2021 fuel release and was issued a Notice of Violation by DOH on May 12, 2022.

The Navy has posted the required administrative notice on the Public Notice page at: <https://jbphh-safewaters.org>.

(Photo by Spc. Matthew Mackintosh)



Hawaii Navy wounded warriors participate in events to support

# WARRIOR CARE MONTH

## A SHOW OF STRENGTH

Story by Anna Marie G. General  
Photos by Melvin J. Gonzalvo  
*Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs*

From enrollment and recovery to transitioning out of military service into civilian life, the Navy Wounded Warrior Program provides support and continuous care for wounded warriors.

Once a year, the Department of Defense (DoD) and military services mark November as Warrior Care Month highlighting the strength and resilience – physically, mentally, and spiritually – of our wounded, ill, and injured service members and their families and caregivers. This year’s theme is “A Show of Strength.”

In support of Warrior Care Month, the Navy Region Hawaii Wounded Warrior team hosted several activities and events around Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and Schofield Barracks to honor and recognize Navy wounded warriors.

# CAKE CUTTING



how she became a part of the Wounded Warrior program.

"I was diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer when I returned from my deployment with USS Michael Murphy. When I was referred to Navy Wounded Warrior by my primary care manager, I had no idea what it was or how I was even eligible," said Edwards. "Then I was contacted by the Navy Wounded Warrior program and was enrolled."

With the help of the Navy Wounded Warrior program, Edwards was able to get involved with the wounded warrior project, and took part in events that helped her both physically and mentally.

In addition to the cake cutting ceremony, Edwards and other wounded warriors participated in various activities during a two-day RESET (Recreation, Employment, Support, Education and Transition) event which included ceramics, woodshop, painting, outrigger canoe paddling, sailing, and a resource fair, Nov. 15-16 on the Hickam side of JBPHH and Rainbow Bay Marina.

"We are so grateful for the support due to the socialization of the Wounded Warrior programs and we've seen an increase in our enrollment

from what we had last year," said Margo Crane, regional program director for the Wounded Warrior program. "We had about 25 participating wounded warriors and this year we are at 39 and growing."

During the event, wounded warriors had the opportunity to meet others who shared similar experiences and worked together as a team.

"I really enjoyed myself today, it was definitely a memorable experience," said Chief Petty Officer Raquel King, a wounded warrior assigned to CNRH. "One of the lessons that I've learned from canoe paddling is for everyone to be on the same pace and being a part of a team we see the result immediately. If we all push together, we're all going to go in a smooth direction which provides instant gratification that is truly satisfying."

Warrior Care Month was established on Nov. 5, 2008 by former Secretary of Defense Robert F. Gates as a DoD effort aimed at increasing awareness of programs and resources available to wounded, ill, and injured service members, their families, and those who care about them.

For more information on the Navy Wounded Warrior program, visit <https://www.navywoundedwarrior.com/>



Among the events, Sailors and DoD civilians celebrated on Nov. 7 with an annual cake-cutting ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Memorial chapel on JBPHH, to highlight Navy wounded warriors' road to recovery and personal triumphs while they share their stories with the community.

Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, provided remarks in support of Warrior Care Month and addressed his appreciation for wounded warriors.



"First of all I want to say that I am glad to be here and I'd like to show my appreciation for the Wounded Warrior program," said Barnett. "One thing that I've learned is to look for the opportunity to get better and to get well spiritually, emotionally, physically, and intellectually. This is what this program does so thank you for the time and I look forward to hearing what you have to share."

Among the guest speakers was wounded warrior Aviation Technician 1st Class Kristin Olive assigned to JBPHH who shared how her life changed as an athlete when she received the support and encouragement from her coaches and teammates.

"When I was first injured, I believed I would recover quickly and everything would go back to normal," said Olive. "I was told things would never go back to normal, I struggled with anxiety, frustration, anger, and depression."

After applying for the Navy team trials to try out for the adaptive sports team, Olive spent long hours learning to do things she has never done before as an athlete.

"I was trying to learn how to throw shot put and discus from an Olympic Gold medalist coach. I had never seen a discus and never felt so uncoordinated in my life but I felt supported," Olive added. "The coaches and other athletes with varying disabilities made me look like I can do anything and I felt part of a team for the first time in a long time."

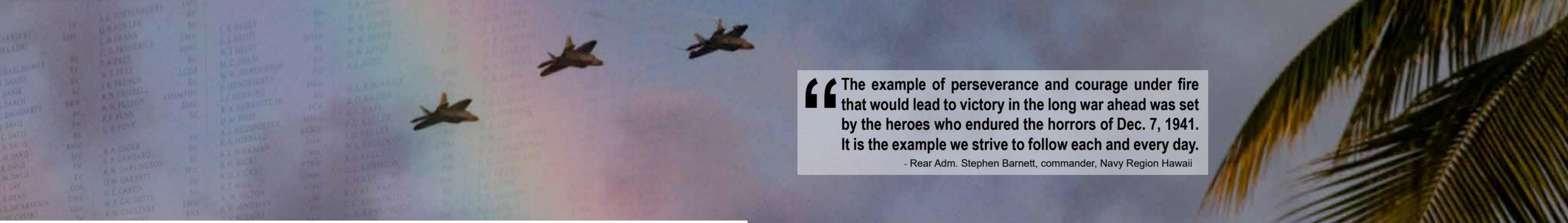
Olive had the opportunity to compete in the DoD Warrior Games at the ESPN complex in Orlando against teams from other services and won four gold medals and two silver medals.

Information Technology Specialist 1st class Maria Edwards, assigned to Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, shares



# RESET





“The example of perseverance and courage under fire that would lead to victory in the long war ahead was set by the heroes who endured the horrors of Dec. 7, 1941. It is the example we strive to follow each and every day.”

- Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii



# PEARL HARBOR REMEMBERED

“A DAY WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY”

Dec. 7, 2022 marked the 81st anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor which thrust America into the firestorm of World War II and our nation’s transition into the leader of the Free World.

Story by Jim Neuman, *Navy Region Hawaii Historian*  
Photos by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla, *NPASE Detachment Hawaii*

The National Park Service and the military services on Oahu commemorated the important anniversary with a ceremony on the grounds of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial Visitor Center.

Over a dozen veterans of World War II, including many who had survived the attack were in attendance to receive honors on behalf of the Greatest Generation.

Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, expressed the sentiments of the current generation of service members.

“The example of perseverance and courage under fire that would lead to victory in the long war ahead was set by the heroes who endured the horrors of Dec. 7, 1941. It is the example we strive to follow each and every day,” said Barnett.

The theme of the 81st commemoration was Everlasting Legacy and throughout the one hour event a consistent refrain encouraged attendees and those who watched the livestream to reflect upon and reverence the everlasting legacy of the sacrifices of the brave men and women who faced the challenges of war and who took the experiences and lessons they had endured to face the

future challenge of striving for peace and reconciliation in a changed world.

The importance of honoring the legacy of the World War II veterans, and capturing their experiences first hand is even more poignant, when faced with the reality that the Greatest Generation will soon pass from the scene and ceremonies like this one will no longer provide an opportunity to honor the veterans in person.

Barnett would sum up those sentiments with the words, “We are inspired by your courage under fire and we vow to honor you and remember your legacy well past this ceremony today. We will honor you with our own lives, and with our service as the defenders of the values of liberty and peace that you fought to preserve 81 years ago. Your legacy will never be forgotten and we salute you.”

The event included a flyover by the 19th Fighter Squadron of the Hawaii Air National Guard, and a salute to the veterans in attendance as well as the memory of those service members lost on Dec. 7, 1941 from the crew of the USS Daniel Inouye as they passed between the visitor center and the USS Arizona Memorial.

(Photos continued on page 12)



TO THE MEMORY OF THE GALLANT MEN  
HERE ENTOMBED AND THEIR SHIPMATES  
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN ACTION  
ON DECEMBER 7, 1941 ON THE



1



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10

Service members and guests who participated in the Joint U.S.-Japan ceremony observe the view of the USS Arizona Memorial from Ford Island, Dec. 8. (Photo by Melvin J. Gonzalvo)

Bishop Shojun Tanaka of Tendai Mission of Hawai'i, delivers a blessing during the 'Blackened Canteen' ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial; during the 81st Pearl Harbor Commemoration, Dec. 6. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

The Joint Service Color Guard presents the colors as part of the 81st Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

Rosie the Riveter ambassador Marian Sousa pays her respects in honor of fallen service members at the USS Arizona Memorial during a harbor tour as part of the 81st anniversary Pearl Harbor remembrance, Dec. 5. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

Yutaka Aoki, Consul General of Japan, and Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, dedicate wreaths during the Joint Japan - U.S ceremony on Ford Island, Dec. 8. (Photo by Melvin J. Gonzalvo)

David Hodge, community relations officer for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, presents former Navy musician Ira "Ike" Schaba with a flag during a performance by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band which performed for World War II veterans and Pearl Harbor visitors during an 81st anniversary Pearl Harbor Remembrance concert at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

Sailors assigned to the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band perform for World War II veterans during an 81st Anniversary Pearl Harbor Remembrance concert at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

Yutaka Aoki, Consul General of Japan, delivers remarks during the Joint Japan - U.S ceremony on Ford Island, Dec. 8. (Photo by Melvin J. Gonzalvo)

Consul General Yutaka Aoki, left, Japanese Consulate; Dr. Hiroya Sugano, director general of the Zero Fighter Admirers Association of Japan; retired Air Force Gen. Raymond Johns Jr. and Charles "Chuck" Sams III, director, National Parks Service, pour bourbon into the waters to pay their respects to the lost service members during the 'Blackened Canteen' ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial, Dec. 6. (Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

The 'Blackened Canteen,' which is part of the 'Blackened Canteen' ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial during the 81st Pearl Harbor Commemoration is displayed, Dec. 6. Photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla)

# FALLEN SERVICE MEMBERS HONORED AT USS OKLAHOMA MEMORIAL CEREMONY



Story by Anna Marie G. General, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs  
Photos by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla, NPASE Detachment Hawaii

As part of the Pearl Harbor 81st commemorative series of events, the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility worked in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS) to coordinate this year's USS Oklahoma Ceremony at its memorial on Ford Island, Dec. 7.

Approximately 200 guests, including Pearl Harbor survivors, veterans and family members, attended the ceremony that commemorated USS Oklahoma (BB-37) and the Sailors and Marines who lost their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. This year's theme focuses on Everlasting Legacy.

"Today's events serves to honor our fallen service members and remember the sacrifices made on Dec. 7, 1941," said David Kilton, chief of interpretation for the Pearl Harbor National Memorial. "We are grateful for the sacrifices that have been made by the Pearl Harbor survivors by what has been known as the Greatest Generation, their families and those World War II veterans."

The presentation of colors by the Joint Color Guard opened the event followed by the national anthem and the Hawaii Pono'i sung by Donald Fialkowski.

Capt. Richard Jones, commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility provided opening remarks and shared the history of the USS Oklahoma on that tragic day.

"Thank you to everyone who made the journey to be here today to honor USS Oklahoma and her crew," said Jones. "I am honored to be here in the 81st anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor and armed with the everlasting legacy of the 429 Sailors and Marines of USS Oklahoma who made the ultimate sacrifice on Dec. 7, 1941, as well as those who worked to save the lives of 32 men trapped in her capsized hull."

"On a quiet Sunday morning of Dec. 7, 1941, the 'Okie' as it was

*continued on pg. 16*

USS OKLAHOMA BB-37

“ We are grateful for the sacrifices that have been made by the Pearl Harbor survivors by what has been known as the Greatest Generation, their families and those World War II veterans.

- David Kilton, chief of interpretation,  
Pearl Harbor National Memorial



known on Battleship Row alongside six of its sister warships had begun its day,” he added. “In a matter of only 12 minutes, the ship and the crew were plunged into battle, attacked by as many as nine torpedoes. It capsized and sank to the bottom of Pearl Harbor in mere minutes. Those still alive were now trapped in a hellish reality inside a capsized ship.

Jones explained how the crew members performed their escape.

“Several crew members were swimming blindly through almost 90 feet of darkened and flooded bulkheads before surfacing to the horrors that were occurring near the harbor,” said Jones. “For those still trapped in the rising waters, banging walls with any available tools desperately hoping their plea for help would be heard. On shore, hundreds of military and civilian workers raced to aid the foundering ship.”

Miraculously amidst the noise from the ongoing battle across the harbor, those assisting in the recovery heard the cries for help and sped the rescue of the men trapped deep within the Oklahoma.

“A group of civilian shipyard workers rose to the challenge and began chipping and cutting away at the hull steel to reach those trapped inside. For the next 48 hours, 32 men were pulled out of the flooded compartments and carried back to shore exhausted from their relentless efforts to be rescued,” said Jones.

Jones said the importance of having this ceremony is it continues the history and the legacy, and it allows the history to be alive. Through these events, it helps keep the memory and the history real for our up and coming Sailors and civilians, and citizens of the U.S.

Concluding the event, a floral tribute and a reading of the names of service members aboard the USS Oklahoma was announced through a loud speaker as attending guests were invited to place rose petals and name cards matching the name of the fallen service member to the respective white stone name sticks along the USS Oklahoma Memorial.

According to NPS, the memorial’s black granite walls suggest the once formidable hull of the Oklahoma while the white marble standards [sticks] represents its lost Sailors and Marines. Each perfectly aligned marble standard symbolizes an individual in pristine white dress uniform, inspired from the naval tradition of “manning the rails.” The marble standards of this memorial stand perfectly straight, “manning the rails” of the Oklahoma, forever.



# MAKAHIKI strengthens military, community bond

Story by Anna Marie G. General / Photos by MC2 Greg Hall  
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Military and the Hawaii community joined together to celebrate Kapuaikaula Makahiki Nov. 5 at Rainbow Bay Marina on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

The Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Navy Region Hawaii and JBPHH collaborated to preserve the rich heritage by hosting the annual Makahiki festival. This event provided an opportunity for the military and Hawaii community to come together to learn about the rich pre-western Hawaiian traditions and history of the lands surrounding JBPHH.

Makahiki is an ancient Hawaiian celebration dedicated to Lono, the god of welfare, agriculture and health; to give thanks for nature's gifts received from land and sea.

"Because of COVID, the last Makahiki was held in 2019, so it's been a while," said Jeff Pantaleo, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Hawaii archaeologist. "But, what's really different this year is the new leadership for the Navy, so this is their first Makahiki experience. They're very supportive and this has been a really strong component for the relationship between the Navy and the native Hawaiian community."

The event began with a reenactment of the arrival of Lono with his cohort, involving command leadership as the canoe paddlers, traversing across the sea from Rainbow Bay Marina to Loko Paaiau fishpond and back to the shoreline of the marina where they were welcomed with an oli or welcoming chant.

Following the arrival, a procession took place for the Hookupo, or offering of gifts, to Lono to give thanks for agricultural bounties. Ceremonial offerings such as leis, plants and fruit were placed on a ceremonial altar as welcoming chants were sung for each offering.

After the offering of gifts, a hula performance took place followed by opening remarks provided by Rear Adm. Stephen Barnett, commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

"On behalf of our community of Sailors, Airmen and their families, I want to thank you all for taking time to come out today to share your culture and visit with us," said Barnett. "I

look forward to learning even more about Hawaiian culture and traditions from our friends in the community. Mahalo to the Royal Order of Kamehameha and Hawaiian Civic Clubs for this opportunity."

Barnett concluded his remarks by introducing Shad Kane, cultural practitioner with the Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs to talk about the history and importance of Makahiki.

"The significance of the Makahiki in Hawaiian culture was to establish one relationship between chiefs and the people that lived in different districts," said Kane, who is also a Navy Vietnam veteran. "That was important. Because warfare was so common, people would not fight for a chief unless they knew him. The Makahiki gave them an opportunity for people to get to know chiefs. That's the significance of the Makahiki in addition to celebrating Lono."

"The Makahiki is in celebration of Lono, the god of agriculture, welfare and health. So today, even ancient, it had a party atmosphere to encourage people to attend. The Makahiki was ideal, games were played to test the health and welfare of his people," said Kane. "We've been celebrating Makahiki with the Navy for the last 20 years. We used to have the Makahiki on Ford Island and at Hickam Beach.

So today, we are simply here [Rainbow Bay Marina] because it's easy for civilians to get access," said Kane.

Concluding the event, the military and community joined together for some fun with traditional Hawaiian games including Ulu Maika (stone rolling), Moa Pahee (dart tossing), Makaihe (spear throwing) and Hakamoa (one leg wrestling).

"This brings us together, not to talk about projects but just to talk story and to get to know each other better," said Pantaleo.

Capt. Mark Sohaney, commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam concluded the event with closing remarks.

"As the admiral mentioned earlier, Makahiki gives us the opportunity to learn more about the culture and traditions of our local Hawaiian friends," said Sohaney. "On behalf of everyone at Joint Base, I want to thank you for such a wonderful morning."

**“This brings us together, not to talk about projects but just to talk story and to get to know each other better.”**

- Jeff Pantaleo,  
NAVFAC Hawaii archaeologist



# PREVENT THE SPREAD

Story by Danny Hayes  
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) has been a threat to palm species growing here in Honolulu for several years. With the assistance of the public, the agricultural industry and military families, this invasive creature can be controlled.

Experts with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (UH) CRB Response team believe sharing information and collaboration can help stop the tiny animal from spreading outside of Oahu.

According to the CRB response website, *Oryctes rhinoceros* is native to Southeast Asia. It was first detected on Oahu in 2013 near Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and the Honolulu airport on Mamala Bay.

Keith Weiser, deputy operations for CRB Response, believes it is important to control the spread of non-native species that arrive in the state and threaten the ecosystem.

"I feel that it is extremely important to manage invasive species in Hawaii because we have such a high density of rare and endemic species," said Weiser. "The health of farmed land and natural areas is important to the livelihood, and enjoyment of residents and visitors."

The CRB burrows within the tree and feeds off of the palms creating damage to the leaves that can be seen from afar. The damage to the coconut palms not only create an unsightly pattern, but can also kill mature trees. There are also impacts to the cultural uses of the plant.

"Coconut, known as niu in Hawaii, has been referred to as the 'tree of life' in many places in the Pacific," said Weiser. "All parts of the coconut tree were utilized for various purposes including food, housing, crafts, transportation, and cultural ceremonies."

Natural resource professionals at JBPHH have joined the fight in protecting local coconut palm trees from this invasive beetle.

"The Navy works with the [Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle] Response to monitor CRB populations, survey for CRB damage in palm trees, and identify potential breeding habitat," said JBPHH Natural Resource manager, Sarah Howard.

The base tries to help do its part by educating the families that live in military housing and working with groundskeepers to avoid creating CRB breeding habitats.

"All JBPHH properties have CRB, so they are all at risk," said Howard. "Handling green waste in compliance with the JBPHH Green Waste policy is the installation's best strategy for containing CRB."

JBPHH works alongside organizations and state agencies like the department of agriculture, UH and CRB Response to learn more about the movements of the coconut rhinoceros beetle.

According to Howard, the goal was to initially get rid of the invasive beetle entirely, but that is very difficult to do without other public and private landowners being more proactive.

"The purpose of CRB efforts have now shifted from eradication to containment," added Howard. The goal now is to stop CRB from further expanding on Oahu and from making its way to neighboring islands."

To learn more about the coconut rhinoceros beetle, and to see how to recognize what they look like, visit the CRB Response website at [crbhawaii.org](http://crbhawaii.org).



AROUND PMRF

## Pacific Missile Range Facility participates in Veterans Day events

Sailors assigned to Pacific Missile Range Facility, march in the Kauai Veterans Day Parade in downtown Lihue. In addition to the parade, veterans and other attending guests render honors for the parading of colors carried by students with Waimea High School Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps on the parade grounds at Kauai Veterans Cemetery. Capt. Brett Stevenson, commanding officer of PMRF was in attendance. (Photos by MC2 Samantha Jetzer and MC2 Bodie Estep)





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## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

We are thankful for your continued support this year and we come bearing gifts of good times during this holiday season.

**DEC. 14 thru 25**

### DAYS OF LIBERTY

Single sailors and airmen, participate throughout the season in various fun Liberty activities, events and volunteer opportunities. With each activity you receive an entry into drawings of holiday fun, including a grand prize holiday surprise. The more you participate, the more entries you get!



### DAYS OF CHRISTMAS WITH MWR GOLF

Each day, on one JBPHH (18-hole) golf course, one foursome will be selected at random to receive complimentary golf that day. It might be Navy-Marine, Mamala Bay or Barbers Point. A different JBPHH course each day.



**Dec. 3**

**Winterfest**, 1-4p.m. at the JBPHH Library. Come to the library for FREE holiday crafts, games, decorating challenges, facepainting, food and stories.

**DEC. 9**

### 54TH ANNUAL TOWER LIGHTING CELEBRATION *Sponsored by USAA*

4:30-7:30p.m. at Freedom Tower. FREE holiday-themed evening with live music from Air Force and Navy bands, keiki holiday crafts and games, holiday drinks, sponsors activities and tents, food sales by various base command groups, festive characters and a grand entrance by the big guy from the North Pole. Stick around for the historic Tower Lighting Ceremony, with a dazzling laser light show set to the best holiday tunes!



**Dec. 23**

**Holiday Movie in the Park**, 6:15p.m. at Hickam Harbor. Grab you blanket and cooler, it's a movie under the stars! We'll be showing the modern holiday classic "ELF" so get there before showtime to claim your spot.

**Christmas Dinner To Go at Tradewinds**. Prime Rib dinner, just \$26/person. Call 808-449-7144 to place your order before the Dec. 20 deadline.

**Dec. 25**

**Liberty Free Christmas Day Meals**. Single sailors and airmen, stop by the Liberty Center at Kona Winds between 11a.m.-1p.m. for a FREE Christmas lunch and enjoy the holiday with your fellow service members. While supplies last!

**Dec. 31**

**New Year's Eve Celebration**, 9p.m. at Kona Winds. Ring in 2023 with us at The Sandbar in Kona Winds! Live DJ, pupus, party favors and other surprises await. For 18 and older.

# JBPHH celebrates 53rd annual Tower Lighting

Service members and their families enjoy activities and a laser light show during a holiday lighting ceremony at the Freedom Tower on JBPHH, Dec. 9. The Freedom Tower stands as a landmark on JBPHH. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Melvin J. Gonzalvo and JBPHH MWR)



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## *Holiday Decorating*

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any strings of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cord do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

## *Holiday Entertaining*

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large deep ashtrays for smokers.
- Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

# Winter Holidays Safety Tips & Information

from  
the National Fire Protection Association

The Federal Fire Department would like to provide some winter holiday safety tips from the National Fire Protection Association.

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire safe holiday season.

## *Before Heading Out Or To Bed*

- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## *Christmas Tree Safety*

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Before placing a tree in the stand, cut 2 inches from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.
- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory, like UL or Underwriters Laboratory.

## *After Christmas*

- Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or places against the home.
- Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## *Facts*

- More than one third of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Almost one third of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- Christmas is the peak day for candle fires.
- More than two of every five fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



For additional please visit the NFPA websites  
[www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Winter-holidays](http://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Winter-holidays)