

Seasons Greetings

Things to do during the holidays

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 Editor

Whether celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or something else, this time of year is considered special by millions. And while a Hawaiian holiday season may differ from what you are used to back on the mainland, the local community offers numerous activities both on and off base to help you celebrate the season.

Hawai'i Navy News offers you a list of just a few of the many activities occurring all over the island this holiday season.

From the staff at Hawai'i Navy News ...Happy Holidays!

On base

Holiday Concert

MWR presents a holiday concert with country sensation Chad Brock at 8 p.m. tonight at Paradise Lounge, Club Pearl. Admission is free. Brock's chart-topping hits include "Ordinary Life," "Lightning Does The Work" and "Yes." For more information, call 473-1743.

"Santa Claus Lives In Hawaii"

The Army's Theatre of Imagination presents an original production by Art Freedman and Roslyn Catracchia.

Tonight, tomorrow and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. matinees on Dec. 22 and 23 at Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter

Tickets are \$12 and \$15 for adults and \$6 and \$8 for kids.

For more information, call 438-1980.

Winter Solstice Celebration

Tonight, Paniolo Café-The Country Bar will be open until 4 a.m. for music, dancing and revelry. Party-goers can possibly receive several great gifts-perfect for the last-minute shoppers. Everything begins at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 473-1743.

Christmas trees now available

There's still plenty of time to get a re-



Robert Rock photo

Take a drive or trolley ride through downtown Honolulu, currently filled with holiday lights.

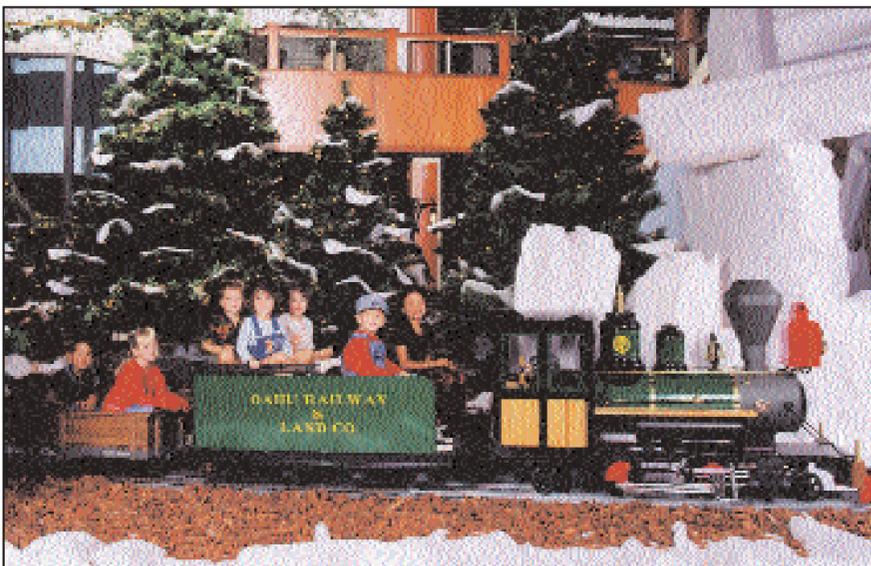


Photo courtesy of PRWorks

Children under 15 years of age can ride the "Pearlridge Express" Holiday Train at the Pearlridge Uptown Center Court now until Jan. 1, 2002.



Robert Rock photo

A giant Hawaiian-style "Shaka Santa" and Mrs. Claus sit in the Honolulu Hale (City Hall) area. The area offers activities both day and night including various musicians performing nightly at 7 p.m. followed by visits by the real Santa Claus.

al Christmas tree for your home this holiday season. The NEX tree lot is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and is located next to PSD off Center and Radford Drives.

Gift Wrapping

If you need your gifts wrapped at the last minute, the Paul Hamilton Family Support Group will hold a gift wrapping fundraiser from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 22 and 23 at the NEX.

Santa Pictures

Pictures with Santa are now available at Toyland until Dec. 23, 4-7 p.m. Wednesday to Friday and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Don't miss your chance to get your child's picture taken with Santa.

New Year's Eve Celebration

You can enjoy festive music, a fun-loving crowd and non-stop dancing at this New Year's Eve party at Paniolo Café-The Country Bar. The \$5 cover charge includes party favors, a chance to win great gifts and all the fun memories the night brings for you and yours. For more information, call 473-1743.

New Year's Eve Party

Ring in the New Year at Beeman Center. Free pupus, karaoke and fun start at 9 p.m. For more information, call 473-2582.

Free Movies

Free movies for all on Christmas Day (Dec. 25) and New Year's Day (Jan. 1) at Sharkey Theater. For times and titles, call the Movie Hotline at 473-0726.

Off base

Hale Koa Holiday Activities

Christmas Eve Candlelight Buffet Dinner Show

In DeRussy Hall at 6 p.m. Spectacular entertainment and a lavish buffet menu make for a memorable evening including a candlelit dinner. Reservations are required (\$19.95

adults, \$10.95 children under 12).

Christmas Day Buffet

A pianist will entertain as you enjoy traditional holiday favorites and Hawaiian specialties (\$19.95 for adults, \$10.95 for children under 12, plus 10 percent gratuity).

New Year's Eve Gala

In the Banyan Tree Showroom at 7 p.m.

Enjoy a gourmet sit-down dinner and a variety of music from Gonzales (ranging from salsa to big band). Gratuity is included. Reservations are required. Cost is \$69.95

New Year's Eve with Dick Jensen

In DeRussy Hall at 7 p.m. International dinner buffet, party favors, midnight toast and an evening of song by Dick "the Giant" Jensen. Gratuity is included. Reservations are recommended. Cost is \$64.95

New Year's Eve Disco

In the Barefoot Bar at 9 p.m. Music and dancing under the stars, as a DJ spins favorites of yesterday and today. Complimentary party favors. \$5 cover charge.

•For all Hale Koa activities, make your reservations by calling the hotel's Activity Desk at 955-0555 ext. 546. The Hale Koa Hotel is an Armed Forces Recreation Center and welcomes all active duty and retired military, Reserve and National Guard members, Department of Defense Civilians, family members and guests of eligible users.

Pearlridge Express

From now until Jan. 1, 2002. Ride the Pearl Ridge Express, Hawaii's only scale model, fully functioning train. Children up to 15 years old (no taller than 48 inches) may ride through a Christmas Alpine forest and ice mountain at Pearlridge Uptown Center Court for \$3. For more information, call 488-0981.

Jingle Bell Express

From now until Jan. 1, 2002. The Jingle Bell Express at Ala Moana Center is a holiday ride for children 12 and under (minimum height 36 inches). Advance tickets and time schedules are available at Ala Moana Customer Service near Centerstage. Same-day tickets must be purchased at the Train Depot. For more information, call 955-9517.

17th Annual Honolulu City Lights

From now until Jan. 1, 2002 in the area surrounding Honolulu Hale (the City Hall) downtown Honolulu. The city lights spectacular features several streets lined with Christmas light displays after dark, as well as indoor Christmas tree and wreath exhibits open daily from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. All events are free. For more information, call 527-6060.

Honolulu City Light Trolley Tours

From now until Dec. 30. Park at Victoria Ward Centers and catch the Honolulu City Lights trolley

at the Auahi Street trolley station. Sit back and enjoy the thousands of twinkling lights and festive holiday displays as the trolley makes its way through downtown Honolulu. The trolley operates daily (except Dec. 24 and 25) beginning at 6:30 p.m. with pick-ups every half-hour, ending at 9 p.m. Children three years and younger are free. There is a \$2.50 fare for all others. Fares will benefit the Hawaii Foodbank. For more information, call 591-8411.

Nutcracker

Ballet Hawaii's holiday presents the "Nutcracker" featuring Ashley Tuttle from the American Ballet Theatre as the "Sugar Plum Fairy". Music by the Honolulu Symphony. At the Blaisdell Concert Hall. Dec. 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 23 at 2:30 p.m. Charge by phone, call 526-4400 or log to www.ticketplus.com. Ballet Hawaii 521-8600.

Christmas in Paradise with the Makaha Sons

Join Moon, John and Jerome Makaha at the Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel for a prime rib dinner buffet Dec. 23. Rodney Villanueva will host this festive evening. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the Makaha Sons will perform at 7:30 p.m. Prices are \$40 inclusive per person, \$20 inclusive for children ages 5-10, or \$350 inclusive for a table of 10. For more information, call 944-6372.

Ho'omaka Hou 2002

Ho'omaka Hou (The New Beginning) is set New Year's Eve at the Sheraton Waikiki, Hawaii Ballroom with Hawaii's best in music and hula halau. Enjoy sights and sounds from the traditional Hawaiian music and dance to the contemporary vocal talents of Hawaii's most recognized artists and award winning hula halau. Dinner and cabaret show packages are available. Doors open at 6 p.m. For more information, call 922-4422

Star of Honolulu New Year's Eve Cruises

Depart Aloha Tower Marketplace for a two-hour cruise from 10:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Choose from two packages.

The "Romance Cruise" includes a five-course French style dinner, super premium cocktails, champagne, live jazz, party favors and a spectacular view of the fireworks.

The "Celebration Cruise" includes a three-course whole lobster and filet steak dinner, premium cocktails, Champagne, the "Spirit of Aloha" show and great views of the fireworks.

See your nearest travel professional, or call 983-STAR (7827).

New Year's Eve Celebration at the Aloha Tower Marketplace

Enjoy a first-class fireworks show at midnight, live entertainment on barge at Pier 9, a family play zone in the Pier 10 terminal, strolling entertainment, party favors and several food/refreshment areas at the Aloha Tower Marketplace. For more information, call 566-2337.