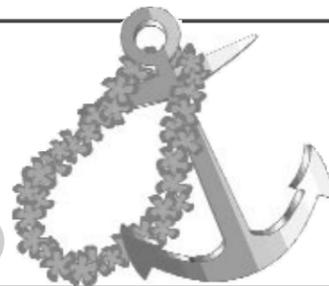


Hawaii Navy News

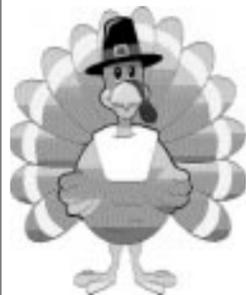


Volume 24 Issue 46

Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

November 19, 1999

Happy Thanksgiving



In Brief

Road Construction on Center Drive

Due to road construction on Center Drive, access to Personnel Support Detachment (PSD), Pearl Harbor is from Radford Drive only. Access from Kamehameha Highway is no longer available. Due to heavy traffic on Radford Drive, PSD customers should exercise caution when making left hand turns onto Center or Radford Drive. For more information call 471-2405 ext. 105.

Barbers Point Commissary Holiday Hours

Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 25: closed
Nov. 26: opens at 10 a.m.
Christmas Eve
Dec. 24: closes at 4 p.m.
Christmas
Dec. 25: closed
Dec. 28: opens at 10 a.m.
New Years Eve
Dec. 31: closes at 6 p.m.
New Years Day
Jan. 1: closed
Jan. 4: opens at 10 a.m.
For more information call 684-3213.

Medical Clinic Hours on Thanksgiving

Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor will be closed Nov. 25. Branch Medical Clinic Makalapa will have limited acute care and routine appointments available from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Branch Medical Clinic Kaneohe Bay will have limited acute care and routine appointments available from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Branch Medical Clinic's Shipyard and Barbers Point will be closed. BMA's Wahiawa and Camp Smith will be closed. For more information call BMC Makalapa at 474-1510, BMC Kaneohe at 257-3365 or BMC Barbers Point at 684-1810.

Day After Thanksgiving Hours at Navy Exchange

The Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor will be open from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. on the day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 26. For more information call 423-3344.

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Veterans Day commemorated aboard battleship Missouri



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

The Naval Station Regional Ceremonial Guard stand at attention during a sunset Veterans Day ceremony onboard the battleship Missouri. The Honor guard rendered a 21-rifle salute during the ceremony, honoring America's veterans.

By PH2 Chad McNeeley
NAVY REGION HAWAII

In the lengthening shadows, men and women, young and old, locals and tourists, active duty and retired service members from all the branches of the military took time to remember America's heroes during a

Veterans Day sunset ceremony onboard the fantail of the battleship Missouri last Thursday.

The event attracted more than the usual amount of tourists that would be found wandering the teak decks of the once mighty warship. More than 300 guests sat and listened to the Sounds of Aloha Chorus sing the

National Anthem and the Hawaii state song, followed by the parading of the colors by the Naval Station Pearl Harbor Honor Guard.

Keynote Speaker Rear Adm. John W. Townes III, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii/Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific said speaking engagements often remind

See Also:

Ceremony honors Submarine veterans.....A-4

him, "of the importance of who we are...and what we in

▼ See VETERANS DAY, A-4

NLSO tax center seeks volunteers

By JO1 David Nagle
NAVY REGION HAWAII

This past tax year, more than 8,700 Sailors on Oahu took advantage of free tax preparation and electronic filing services at the Navy Legal Service Office Pacific, Detachment Pearl Harbor's tax center. Volunteer income tax assistants (VITA's) helped customers prepare federal and Hawaii state income tax returns. Volunteer electronic filers then processed their returns electronically. As a result, Sailors entitled to refunds received them in a matter of days, and saved more than \$556,000 in tax preparation fees.

None of this would have been possible without the help of trained volunteers. NLSO's tax center is gearing up for first tax season of the new millennium and is seeking volunteers to assist Sailors and family members in tax preparation and electronic filing.

Volunteers will receive training on the most recent tax laws, military tax exemptions and policies, Hawaii

1999 NLSO Tax Center statistics

- Customers served: 8,704
- Tax returns filed electronically: 5,625
- Amount of refunds: \$6,886,091
- Savings to Sailors: \$556,011

state tax preparation and electronic filing.

Volunteers should be able to work at least four hours a week at the tax center.

The first training class is scheduled for January 2000. To volunteer, call Airman Eric Antonius, tax center supervisor or Lt. Akihiro Itoh, NLSO's tax officer, at 473-5982, ext. 322.

Physical Readiness Program changes announced

Navy Wire Service

HIGHLY anticipated changes to the Navy's Physical Readiness (PRT) Program were announced Nov. 8 by the Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP).

The changes are to become effective January 1, 2000, and are contained in OPNAVINST 6110.1F.

"The changes that are being implemented will achieve the Navy's goal of moving the PRT test from a "health based" concept to a health and fitness standard and result in a more rigorous program," said Naval Personnel Command's (NAVPERSCOM) Physical Fitness/Sports Program Officer Lt. Cmdr. Neal Carlson.

"There will be more challenging standards for push-ups, sit-ups, 1.5-mile run, and for the swim.

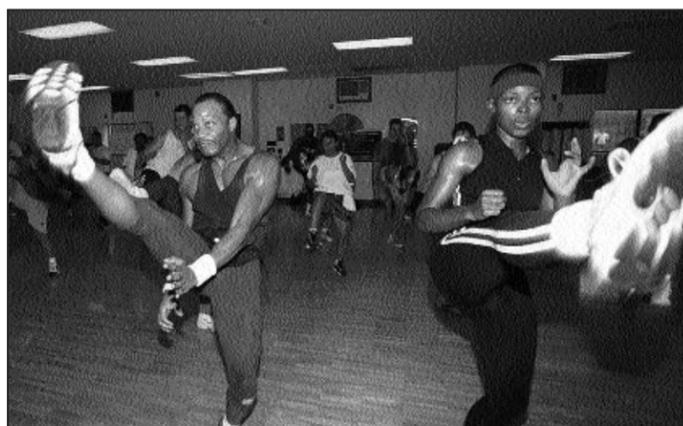
Maximum body fat standards will be age-adjusted. The desired effect of the new program is to encourage Navy members to commit to a healthy lifestyle in order to maintain fitness and body fat standards," Carlson added.

Changes announced in NAVADMIN 298/99 include the lifting of the PRT moratorium that has been in place since January. The moratorium will expire December 31, 1999.

Sailors with three or more PRT failures in a four-year period will carry forward their two most recent failures.

If an enlisted Sailor who carries forward two failures does not pass their next PRT, that Sailor will not be allowed to re-enlist, and will be separated at their EAOS.

Eligibility for advancement will also be lost.



file photo

Servicemembers and family members get fit during a Cardio Karate class at Bloch Arena. Changes to the Navy's Physical Readiness Program will go into effect Jan. 1., focusing on a more rigorous health and fitness program.

▼ See PRT, A-11

Registering to vote can make a difference

By JO1 F.H. Mowry

PACIFIC FLEET PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The year 2000 will be a very busy election year offering not only state primaries and local elections, but a national presidential election as well.

Before any voter can participate in the election process, however, they must be registered to vote in their 'legal state of residence'.

Getting registered is much easier now because of the 1995 National Voter Registration Act. Record numbers of voters turned out for the '96 presidential election. But despite the increase in registration only 49 percent of the voting age population voted in the last presidential election, Nov. 5, 1996.

One way you can begin the registration process is by ordering a National Mail Voter Registration Form. This may be done from any place in the world electronically by using your computer and logging on to the Federal Election Commission's (FEC) voter registration website at: <www.fec.gov/votregis/vr.htm>. All the files at this site are found in the PDF format, so you will need to download the free reader, which is also available at this site, to view or print these documents.

There are a few exceptions to using the Voter registration form: New Hampshire and Wisconsin town, village and city clerks will only accept this application as a request for their own mail-in absentee voter registration form. Wyoming cannot accept this form under their state law, and North Dakota does not have voter registration. The FEC web site provides state by state voter registration information.

Department of the Navy civilians can register in their home state. Registration requirements vary state by state. Many states now offer a program called "Motor voter" registration.

"Registering to vote was accomplished for me at the Driver Licensing Bureau while renewing my driver's license," said Russell J. Dallas, Regional Program Director, Emergency Management, Commander, Navy Region Northwest, a

▼ See REGISTER, A-11